

# بنیاد فرهنگ و جامعه مدنی

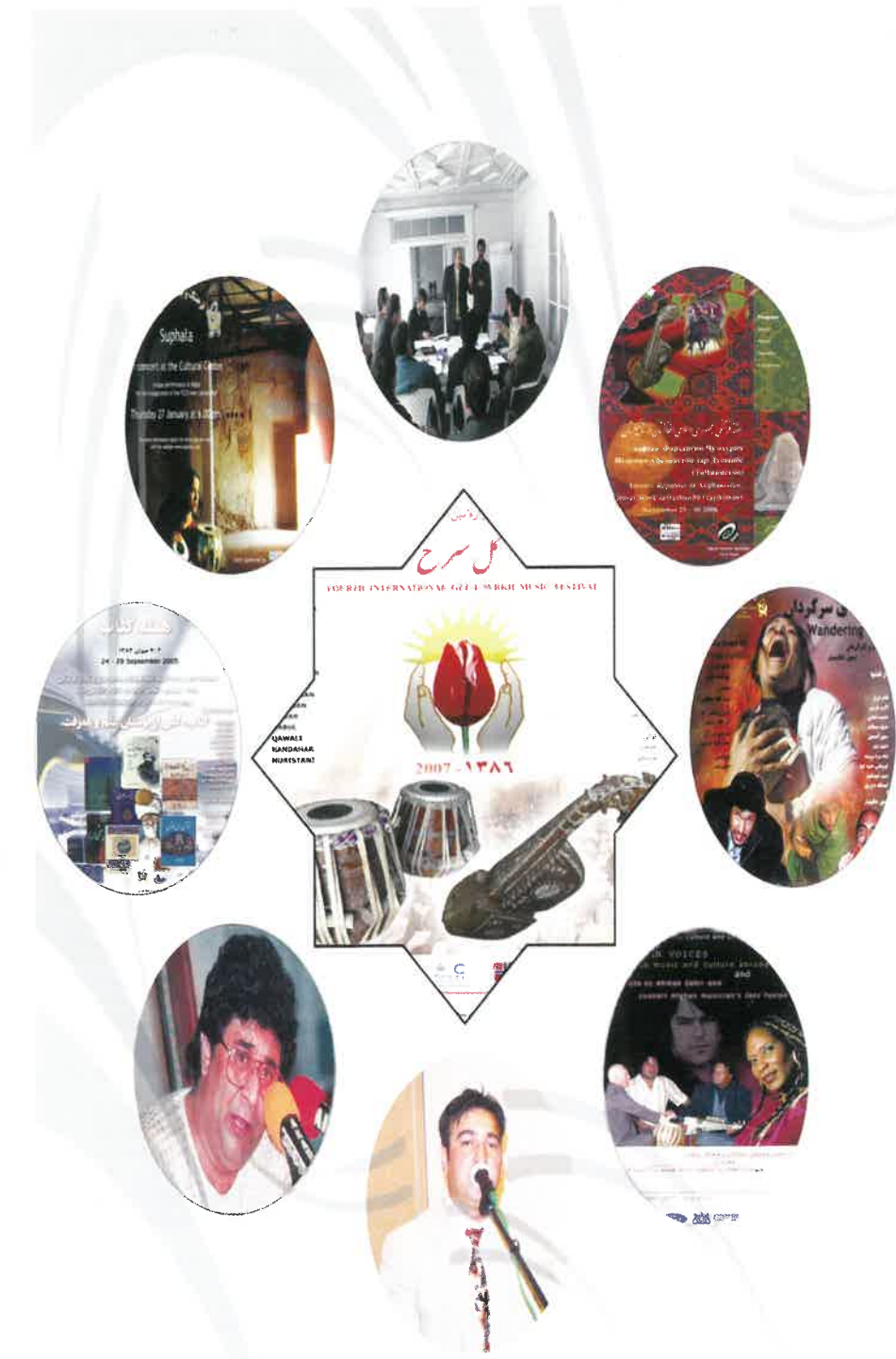
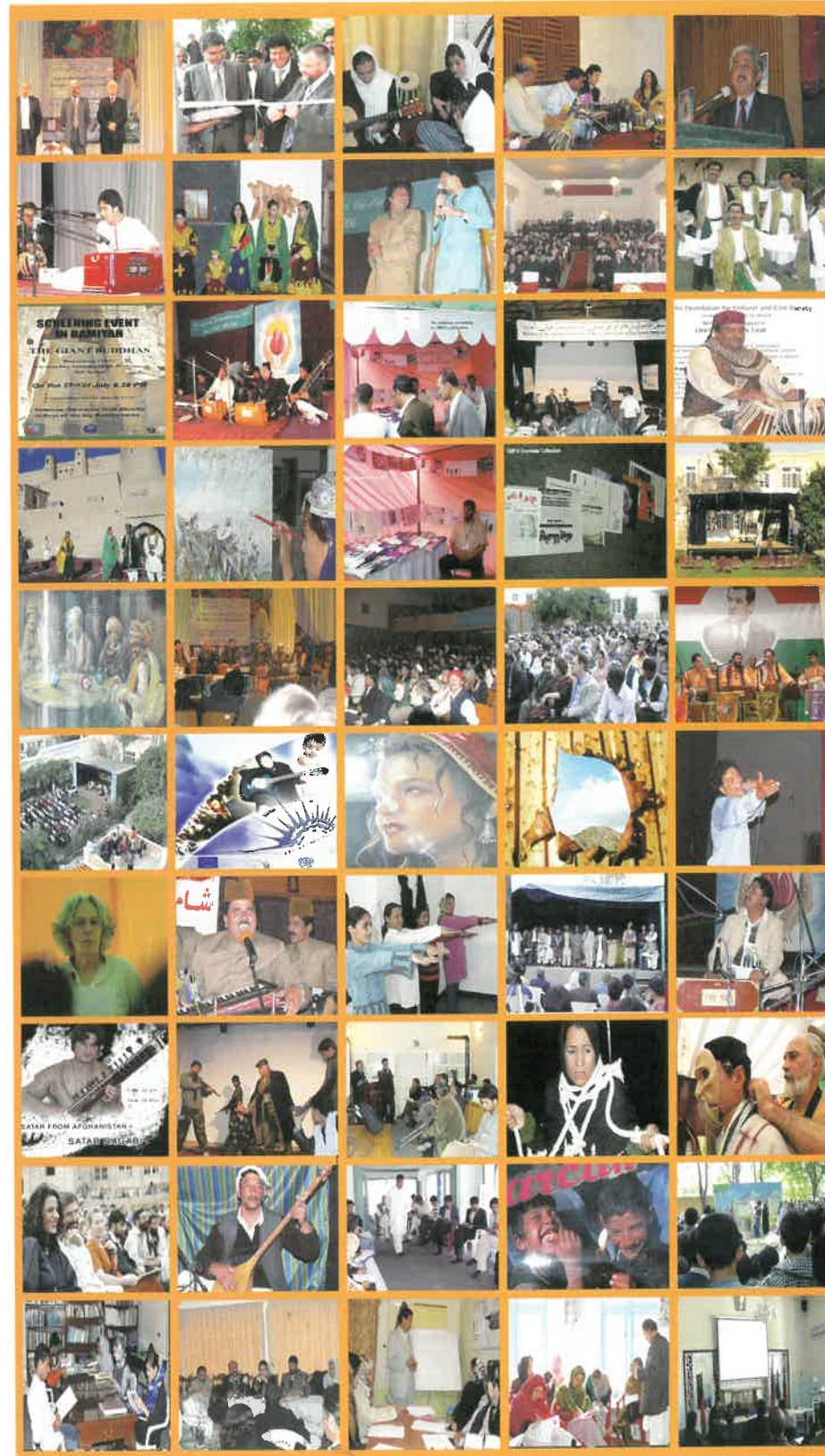
چارمین سالگرد

۲۰۰۷-۲۰۰۳

Foundation for Culture and Civil Society

4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

2003-2007



Add: Foundation for Culture and Civil Society  
Da Afghanan, Salang Wat 869  
Tel: +93(0) 70 278 905, +93 (0) 799 243 587  
Fax: +93 (0) 75 2023578  
Email: info@afghanfcs.org

دافغانان سالنگ وات، ۸۶۹ کابل، افغانستان  
صندوق پستی ۵۹۶۵  
موبایل: ۰۸۷ ۷۹۹ ۲۴۳ (+۹۳) ۷۰۲۷۸ ۹۰۰ (+۹۳)  
فکس: ۰۷۵ ۲۰۲۳۵۷۸ (+۹۳)  
ایمیل: info@afghanfcs.org

## Foundation for Culture and Civil Society

The national Afghan Foundation for Culture and Civil Society was established in March 2003 as an independent social organization by a group of Afghan concerned with the fate of Afghan Culture and the strengthening of afghan Civil Society. Its board member include important personalities from Kabul University , the Ministry of Information and and Culture , the Academy of Sciences , the Human Rights Commission m and the most proactive culture and Social organization currently operating in Afghanistan  
A brief description of FCCS accomplishments and activities from 2003 to 2006 are as follows:

### 1. Culture Activities:-

#### A-In International Level

- 1- Inauguration of the first Afghanistan Culture Week in Dushanbe City, Tajikistan in November 2006 with the participation of 40 Afghan artists, musicians, theater Cinematographers, Calligraphers, and other artists, this program was opened for one week in Dushanbe City, and one day in Rodaki Province of Tajikistan, about 7000 people watched this program and broadly broadcasted by Tajikistan media and TVs.
- 2- Participation in "Didor" the International Film Festival in Dushanbe, and assisting the program through its participation together with the famous film Directors Iran and Tajikistan .
- 3- Presentation of a Photo Exhibition in India, Pakistan and Afghanistan in 2004.
- 4- Invitation of 40 famous French Artists, in *Theatre Du Soleil*, show, under the leadership of Arien Mushkin one of the famous European theater player, and organizing of a theater workshop for 120 Afghan art students, then selection of 20 young artists to play the Aftab Theater.
- 5- Invitation of three Tajik Artists for teaching of one month script writing, acting, and directing courses for 90 students, the out put of this course was the production of a theater named fear (Tars). This was a joint production of Afghanistan and Tajikistan Theater.
- 6- Publishing of a story book written by Noor Muhammad Tabarove a Tajik Writer and Dramatis.
- 7- Representation Afghanistan for the first time at the Biennale of Venice, one of the most influential annual cultural events in the world.
- 8- Performing International musical programs by participation of Indian, Pakistani, and American artists in the Cultural Center of FCCS.
- 9- Presenting Miss Suphala, an Indian-American musician, in a concert with Kharabat performers.
- 10- Sending the acting troupe to present *Romeo and Juliet* in a festival of Central Asian theatre in Tajikistan.
- 11- Conducting a one-month theatre workshop for writing, directing and acting, by three teachers from Tajikistan. The workshop trained 90 people, who graduated from the course.
- 12- Conducting a mixed photography exhibition from Afghan and American photographers called “Kabul-New York.”

#### 1- In National Level.

##### 1.1- Music;

- 1- Performing musical programs in styles such as: Qawali, Ghazal, classical, Kandahari, Ningahari, Pashayee, Kharabat, Hazaragi, Pashto, jazz and national Attan. Activities also included: a concert of western and eastern music by Kabul University, a symphony orchestra by the music school, a Logari music performance, programs of music styles facing extinction, religious music performances (Hindu and Sikh), Deri Mujlis and children’s music concerts and also performances by singers from France, Australia, India and USA. Khalil Godaz performed a sitar concert, and singing performances were given by: Wali Fateh Ali, Shamsuddin Masrour, Samir Rafi, Sayed Jawad Zia, Ustad Ham Ahang, Salim Bakhsh.
- 2- Conducting the Gul-e Sorkh (Red Tulip) Festival in Mazar-e Sharif, with the participation of 15 Afghan music groups and six foreign groups including Iranian, Tajik, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijani, American, Indian, Pakistani, Turkish and French artists every year in March for the years of 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007.
- 3- The opening of a music school that currently teaches 40 students in the instruments of dilruba, rubab, harmonium and drums. This is thanks to the financial contribution of the Afghan Khan Foundation.
- 4- The American Musical Association’s concert with Afghan singers and a concert of Tajikistan’s local singer Mirza Watan Mir with Afghan accompaniment.
- 5- Contribution in conducting the national festivals of the Black Thorn Flower in Logar province, and the Apple Flower Festival in Wardak province. Help was also given in the music performance at the Poly-Technical Youth Solidarity Conference.
- 6- Introduction of new artists to participate in an international musical festival.

##### 1.2 – Theatre:

- 1- Organizing the mobile theatre *Ovide Naw* (New Hope) in 22 provinces to help educate people about the parliamentary elections and also to help in the preparation of a documentary film to be viewed in theatres. This was undertaken with the help and cooperation of the Sayara office and the financial contribution of USAID and the Asia Foundation.
- 2- Establishing of theater organization conferences.
- 3- Building strong relations with international theatre groups such as *Theatre Du Soleil*, from France. This group donated costumes, electronic equipment, lights and a stage curtain to FCCS  
Building a music hall for the Foundation, with the capacity of 150 people in one time.
- 4- Conducting and presenting Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*, directed by Mores, a French
- 5- director.
- 6- Preparation and performance of *Man Jinsse Dowom Nistam* (I Am Not a Second Gender).
- 7- Performances on responses to natural disasters like earthquakes, floods and droughts.
- 8- Implementing 24 programs of such performances in Kabul and the provinces.
- 9- Cooperation in conducting the second National Theater Festival in Kabul.

##### 1.3 -Exhibitions

- 1- Exhibition of contemporary arts, handicrafts, paintings, cartoons and photography.
- 2- Holding training workshops to help people learn more about the arts, finding markets for
- 3- artwork and on the selection of frames for paintings.
- 4- Conducting cartoon, painting and calligraphy exhibitions.

##### 1.4- Cinema:

- 1- The creation of a cinema house open to artists from around the country with the
- 2- cooperation of Afghan filmmakers.
- 3- Recording and Editing of films.
- 4- Establishment of a sound proof studio by the financial assistance of SDC.
- 5- Holding sessions throughout the country for improving relations between civil society networks and other partners to help develop a more balanced society.
- 6- Conducting critical reviews on Afghan movie ceremonies.
- 8- Cooperation with the country’s film makers in the launching of Afghan film productions.
- 9- Providing cinema lectures for filmmakers and students of fine arts.
- 10- Hosting movie night programs each Monday in the Foundation’s hall.
- 11- The film section made several documentary films on the Nawroz festival, theatre performances,
- 12- round-table discussions and other Foundation activities. These films were then edited and
- 13- recorded to CDs and DVDs.
- 14- Production of a feature film (wondering eyes) related to children kidnaps.
- 15- Conducting of film making and editing courses for females.
- 16- Cooperation and casting and of Kid Runner film and introduction of 35 Afghan artists to Dream
- 17- Work Company (Hollywood Filming Industry).
- 18- Presentation of The Giant Buddha film produced by Christian Frei a Swedish film director in
- 19- Bamyan Province.

##### 1.5- Literature:

- 1- Conducting story readings (both for general audiences and children) and poetry recitations.
- 2- Conducting poetry and fiction reviews of young writers.
- 3- Remembrance of the anniversaries of Abdul Rahman Pahwal Balouch’s and Academician
- 4- Javid’s death.
- 5- Conducting of book exhibitions by the participation of Afghan and Iranian publishers in
- 6- 2005 & 2006, on which about 95,000 books were showed in these exhibitions.
- 7- Conducting of story writing for 20 youth students of male and females.
- 8- Conducting poetry and history readings for girls’ schools in Kabul.
- 9- Publishing a book called *Hazian Haya Dar Ghorbat* by Rahnaward Zaryab.
- 10- Publishing and translating the poems of Ustad Khaliullah Khalili in English.

### 1. Civil Society Activities:-

- Printing 180,000 copies of manual introducing parliamentary candidates
  - Procurement of financial support for female parliamentary candidates
  - Monitoring the parliamentary election process in Balkh, Faryab, Paktika and Khost provinces
  - Creating a coordination office for Organizations and Civil Activists
  - Creating a nation-wide network of Civil groups in 28 provinces
  - Surveying Civil Society Organizations in 34 provinces
  - Analysis and research of Civil Society Organizations and translation to English and Pashto
  - Funding 17 projects for Civil Society Organizations to promote awareness about the election process in Khost, Samangan, Balkh and Jowzjan provinces, with small financial support from UNAMA.
  - Maintenance of relations with Civil Society Organizations
  - Maintenance of relations of Civil Society with parliament and participation in parliament meetings with Civil Society
  - Cooperation in making the Shadow Report and Children Rights report from Civil Society
  - Working with Peach Jirga as representative of Civil Society
- Provincial Councils Awareness Roundtables sponsored by USAID which FCCS organized, host, and moderated roundtables discussion on current affairs involving provincial council:
    - ✓ 1 roundtable per province; total 34
    - ✓ Broadcasting the roundtables via local radio;
    - ✓ Editing audio CDs with experts from all roundtables for national distribution to Provincial Councils, local radios and Civil Society Organizations
  - Provincial Consultations for the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS) Pilot Project in Eight Provinces  
FCCS is conducting consultations in 8 provinces in Afghanistan Balkh, Baghlan, Heart, Faryab, Kandahar, Khost and Nangarhar regarding ANDS Pillars and Cross-cutting Issues. The consultations include three day focus groups and surveys. The project is designed to collect quantitative and qualitative data from approximately 640 participants of civil society from:

- Male general CSO members
- Female general CSO members
- Male youth representatives
- Female youth representatives
- Male NSP and CDC members
- Female NSP and CDC members
- Male active community members
- Female active community members

### 3- BMP (*Barname Bedary Milli*)

BMP is a program that awards small grants nation-wide to promote and empower the culture and civil society of Afghanistan through conducting social, artistic and cultural activities. Established in October 2004, it is financially supported by the European Commission (through UN-Habitat) and is implemented by FCCS. Under the observance of BMP, four calls for proposals have been successfully implemented. A total of 274 projects were granted funds to CSOs, Cultural Organizatons, Individuals and Scholars until the end of Jan - 2007, under the following titles:-

- Narcotics and Civil Society (Research)
- Competition for the production of a short film about the current situation of higher education in Afghanistan (Culture)
- Encouraging women to participate in parliamentary elections (Civil Society)
  - Short story writing workshops for school girls (Culture)
  - Instrument making workshop support
  - Documenting endangered natural heritage
  - Short movie production
  - Documenting Afghanistan’s handicrafts
  - Music instruction courses for girls
  - Introducing the provincial council to the people
  - Discovery of talent – unpublished manuscripts
  - Discovery of talent – young graphic artists
  - Youth’s vision and critics on current sociopolitical issues
  - Organizing youth gatherings through musical concerts
  - Students’ socio-cultural activities
  - Who’s who in the local governments?
  - Awareness-raising in the field of truth-seeking and transitional justice
  - Club-house for women
  - Establishing women’s social and legal support centers (Women’s Support Centers)
  - Afghan Customs: understanding corruption and integrity
  - Children’s art workshops
  - Establishing arts training centers
  - Recording and promoting great local musicians
  - Course of web log writing for print media and established authors
  - Citizen’s rights and responsibilities awareness-raising program
  - Establishing local environmental protection committees
  - Public garden and playground creation
  - Afghan Justice: understanding perception of corruption and integrity
  - Discovery of talent – graphic artists
  - Production of fiction and documentary films (90 minutes) on contemporary Afghan society
  - Anthologies of contemporary poets and authors
  - Research related to urban issues
  - Culture and art workshop for children.
  - Sculpture making courses.
  - National Dancing Course.

### 4- Research & Media Section:

The Research & Media section of FCCS started a wide project to document oral history with the cooperation of the Studies Center of Afghanistan and Kabul University. In this program, the Studies Center of Afghanistan cooperates with the Foundation in providing education and training to students and other researchers.

The main purpose of this project is to investigate the social and historical roots of the city of Kabul and to prepare a report about its historical monuments and the lives of the long-term resident families of this area so as to better understand and protect the cultural roots of Kabul. This report will be used to prepare and organize a nation-wide program on oral-history assessment.

**The Research & Media Section performed the following activities:**

Arranging a book fair in which 20 Afghan publishers and book sellers and six Iranian publishers participated with 40,000 books. Approximately 14,000 people visited the fair over the course of a week. A training of librarianship for women librarians was conducted by the Goethe Institute with financial support from GTZ, and under the observation of the Research & Media section of FCCS. The workshop trained 20 women from different organizations.

**OMFA (Open Media Fund for Afghanistan)**

- Survey of 31 printed publications in 38 provinces to make an informative media database and study the current situation of printed publications.
- Financial support of the following publications: *National Council Newspaper* (Kabul), *Payam e Millar Weekly* (Kabul), *Naunehalan Monthly* (Kabul), *Keleed Weekly* (Kabul), *Zanbeli Gham Monthly* (Kabul), *Takhassos Monthly* (Herat), *Karwan e Democracy Weekly* (Kabul), *Afrand Quarterly* (Kabul), *Sabawoon Monthly* (Kabul), *Talaya Weekly* (Baghlan), *Sobh e Balkh Monthly* (Mazar), *Naistan Monthly* (Ghazni), *Mazal Weekly* (Khost), *Cinema Monthly* (Kabul), *Shkula Monthly* (Kandahar), *Meena Monthly* (Jalalabad), *Baaztab Daily* (Mazar), *Sada e Watan Weekly* (Kunduz) and *Neda e Ghazni Weekly* (Ghazni), during a specific period of time.

### Summary of FCCS activities in the provinces:

- Conducting a total of 275 Cultural programs.
- Conducting a total of 210 Civil Society programs.
- Conducting a total of 89 Research & Media programs.

### Round-Tables Aired on TV:-

A total of 82 round-tables with participation from experts on hot political, social and cultural issues, were broadcast through national television.

### FCCS Organization:

FCCS had a total of 88 employees in the Kabul and provincial offices during the year 2005-2006.BMP project ended in Jan-2007, due to completion of BMP project, the staff reduced to 36 employees. The accounts of FCCS from 2003-2005 have been audited by authenticated foreign companies based on transparency and accountability.

Annual financial reports are prepared and ready to distribute to donors.