

Prayer Diary: Afghanistan

3-9 September 2023



‘My name is Surraya, which means brightest star. My father named me this because he was delighted by my birth and wished for me, a future as bright as the brightest star. Unfortunately, he did not know that I would end up with a life that foresees no future.’ – Surraya, a refugee from Afghanistan

The unfolding tragedy in Afghanistan means that countless people are fleeing the horrors there – yet even in a different country, they are not safe or settled. But with your support, we’re working to change that. Read more on p.6 of Response.

Find out more at csw.org.uk/Afghanistan

Sunday 3 September

Earlier this year we screened our new documentary about Afghan refugees, *Leave No One Behind*, in the UK Parliament and in Brussels. We also launched an accompanying in-depth report. Thank God for each MP, MEP and civil society organisation representative who attended or received a copy of the report.

Monday 4 September

Pray that the decision-makers who watched the film would be unable to get the stories they heard out of their heads. Pray that even now, months later, they would be looking for ways they can use their influence to make a difference. Strong, decisive action by the international community is the key to transforming the situation for these refugees.

Tuesday 5 September

Give thanks for the courage of every Afghan refugee who shared their story with us. Ask God to provide everything they need in terms of housing, healthcare, employment, and education for their children – as well as emotional and spiritual support.

Wednesday 6 September

On p.6 of Response you’ll read Surraya’s story. Pray that she and her family would swiftly be granted refugee status in Pakistan, and that the harassment by the local police would stop completely.

Thursday 7 September

Millions of religious and ethnic minorities are still in Afghanistan, despite the dangers they face from the Taliban. Pray that they would have wisdom about whether to leave the country, and how. Pray for their safety in the meantime as they practise their faith in secret.

Friday 8 September

Women and girls in Afghanistan have been banned from working and from attending schools, colleges and universities. Pray for the authorities to have a change of heart.

Saturday 9 September

Lord of all compassion and comfort, we lift up to you Afghanistan’s people – those who have fled, and those who have stayed. Provide for all their needs, we pray, and grant them a safe and peaceful permanent home. Amen.