**The Elected Provincial Council of Balkh’s Quote Regarding Seven**

An effective method for redressing tribulations of our society is for government, civil society and international organizations to recognize the suffering of different people in society and try to bring criminals who violate existing laws to justice.

By looking back at the past, remembering the past, and making efforts to not repeat the suffering and mistakes of the past, we can recognize current challenges and put focus on how we shall address issues of violence against women.

The elected provincial council of Balkh welcomes the event Seven, a text that is based on the true histories and fates of seven brave women from around the world. The council appreciates the initiative of the Swedish Institute and Section Office of the Swedish Embassy in Mazar-e-Sharif for conducting such valuable program/play.

The facts are clear; women in Afghanistan still suffer from violence. To bring perpetrators to justice and support the victims of violence is one of the main duties of the provincial council.

The provincial council of Balkh announces its support for women by participating and reading one of these fates and is taking part in combating to defend the women’s rights worldwide as elected council of Balkh people.

Sincerely

Dr. Mohammad Afzal Adeed

Head of Elected Provincial Council of Balkh

**Dr. Sima Samar’s Quote, Head of Afghanistan’s Independent Human Rights Commission**

When citizens of a country are not always treated in a humane way and do not have legal security in their lives, which secures peace and stability then sustainable development in that country is impossible.

Sustainable development is not possible if women are not included as a vital part of society, when violence against women is not stopped and when human rights of all the women in society, especially in families are not preserved!

Let’s try together to ensure the certainty of life, social justice, democracy, equality, and a stable security for our future generations.

**Governor Atta’s Quote for Women Rights and Play Seven**

As women make up half of the members in every society, they play a key role in the prosperity and development of a society. Besides, they play key role in governance.

Caring about the gender should be a rational and practical not a symbolic and emotional thinking. Struggling with any type of ominous phenomena which is considered as misogyny in the local culture should be place in the agenda of the government.

Fighting the counter violence against women should be changed in to a national culture. Beside these, there should be special focus paid for generalizing the educations for women via the effective programs by the government which will increase the low level of the women participations in the political power and civil services administrations.

There should be a major economic plans set for their self-sufficiency so that other women would not respect as weak and second sex, but human being with all the citizen rights.

Governor Atta thanked the Embassy of Sweden / Section Office of Mazar-e-Sharif for choosing Mazar-e-Sharif as right bed/place for play the Seven and announced his strong support for successful conduction of the play.