

# Reading Book List

## Inspired By Three Cups of Tea

### Books

*Veiled Courage: Inside the Afghan Women's Resistance* by Cheryl Benard

The history of the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA) is told in simple, page-turning prose. There is a biographical sketch of the organization's heroic, charismatic, and martyred founder, Meena, along with a photo of her. Narratives describe how individuals, including indigent refugees, joined RAWA and became strong, clandestine freedom fighters against the oppressive rule of first the Soviet Communist invaders, then the Northern Alliance, and, finally, the Taliban

[HQ 1236.5 .A3 B45 2002](#)

*A Woman Among Warlords: the Extraordinary Story of an Afghan who Dared to Raise her Voice* by Malalai Joya

One of the few women, and the youngest, to win a seat in Afghanistan's Parliament, Joya recounts in strong, uncompromising language her march to activism, from her humble origins to recognizing a burning need to bring the corrupted leaders to justice in her war-torn country.

[NEW DS 371.43 .J69 A3 2009](#)

*My Forbidden Face: Growing up under the Taliban: a Young Woman's Story* by Latifa

Latifa was only 16 when the Taliban overran Kabul, changing her life dramatically. On the morning of September 26, 1996--the day the Taliban took Kabul--Latifa, her sister, Soraya, and their father drove to Aryana Square and saw the body of the murdered former president, Najibullah. The Taliban began issuing edicts, forbidding women to leave their houses without a close male relative to escort them; forcing them to wear *chadris*, which cover their entire bodies; and refusing to allow them to work. This book is a moving first hand account of what happened when the Taliban took over.

[HQ 1735.6 .L38 2001](#)

*Stones into Schools: Promoting Peace with Books, not Bombs, in Afghanistan and Pakistan* by Greg Mortenson

In this dramatic first-person narrative, Greg Mortenson picks up where *Three Cups of Tea* left off in 2003, recounting his relentless, ongoing efforts to establish schools for girls in Afghanistan; his extensive work in Azad Kashmir and Pakistan after a massive earthquake hit the region in 2005; and the unique ways he has built relationships with Islamic clerics, militia commanders, and tribal leaders.

[NEW LC 2330 .M66 2009](#)

*Kabul Beauty School: an American Woman goes Behind the Veil* by Deborah Rodriguez

This memoir offers a glimpse into a world Westerners seldom see—life behind the veil. Rodriguez was entranced with the delightful personalities that emerged when her students removed their burqas behind closed doors, but her book is also a tale of empowerment—both for her and the women.

[HQ 1735.6 .R63 2007](#)

*The Women of Afghanistan under the Taliban* by Rosemarie Skaine

Skaine's book is a good introduction for readers looking for a comprehensive book about women in Afghanistan.

[HQ 1735.6 .S39 2002](#)

*Places in Between* by Rory Stewart

We never really find out why Stewart decided to walk across Afghanistan only a few months after the Taliban were deposed, but what emerges from the last leg of his two-year journey across Asia is a lesson in good travel writing. By turns harrowing and meditative, Stewart's trek through Afghanistan in the footsteps of the 15th-century emperor Babur is edifying at every step, grounded by his knowledge of local history, politics and dialects.

[DS 352 .S74 2006](#)

*Zoya's Story: an Afghan Woman's Struggle for Freedom* by Zoya

After both her parents were killed by the predecessors of the Taliban, the Mujahideen, Zoya took up her mother's work in RAWA, the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan and, with her grandmother, journeyed to Pakistan, where she could receive an education at a school run by RAWA. A few years later, Zoya returned to Afghanistan to help her people and get firsthand accounts of the horrors of the Taliban reign.

[HQ 1735.6 .Z75 Z69 2002](#)

### Articles

*Crisis in Pakistan: Educate Women and Girls for Long-term Solutions* by Rebecca Winthrop, Co-Director, Center for Universal Education

[http://www.brookings.edu/speeches/2009/0714\\_pakistan\\_education\\_winthrop.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/speeches/2009/0714_pakistan_education_winthrop.aspx)

*Education in Afghanistan* from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Education\\_in\\_Afghanistan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Education_in_Afghanistan)

*Opening up the World, Educating Girls in Pakistan* by Global Education Website

<http://www.globaleducation.edna.edu.au/globaled/go/cache/offonce/pid/3062>

*PAKISTAN: Need for Girls' Education Felt but Schools are Missing* by Zofeen Ebrahim

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=29974>

*Pakistani Girls Seek Better Education* by Betsy Pisik

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2009/mar/08/pakistani-girls-seek-better-education/>

## Video

*Class Dismissed in Swat Valley*

A short documentary profiling an 11-year-old Pakistani girl on the last day before the Taliban closed down her school.

<http://video.nytimes.com/video/2009/02/22/world/asia/1194838044017/class-dismissed-in-swat-valley.html>

*A Schoolgirl's Odyssey*

A documentary by Adam B. Ellick follows a Pakistani girl through a perilous six months as she loses her education, is forced into exile and faces an uncertain return back home in Swat, Pakistan

<http://video.nytimes.com/video/2009/10/10/world/1247465107008/a-schoolgirl-s-odyssey.html>