

Joint Development Associates International

June 2012



Discover Afghanistan

"Goat grabbing" is the national sport in Afghanistan and other Central Asian countries. The game, known as Buzkashi, is an exciting, even dangerous attempt between two teams to gain control of a headless goat or sheep carcass placed in the center of a field. The horsemen grab the carcass at full gallop, clear it from any pursuers and carry it across a goal line. Players are mounted on highly trained horses and top contenders practice arduously for years to compete in this fierce form of tug of war. Sponsors often put up prizes of fine clothes or cash.

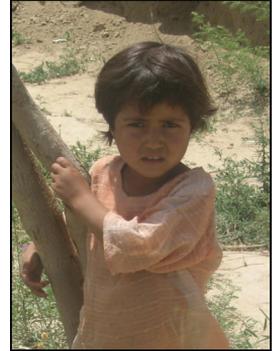
Dear Friends,

Giving birth in Afghanistan is dangerous to mother and child. Afghanistan has both the highest maternal mortality rate and highest infant mortality rate in the world (CIA World Factbook). Almost 90% of women deliver their babies at home without medical help and rarely any knowledge of prenatal care or possible complications. Girls often marry before they turn 18 and start bearing children soon after.

Illiteracy, lack of medical care and life in remote and poor rural areas compound the issue for many women. What do those statistics mean? They mean that the lives of women and their babies are often in jeopardy during pregnancy, at birth, and even after.

BLISS SAVES LIVES

Birth Life Savings Skills (BLISS) is a new health education program for JDA that teaches women how to provide basic but essential first aid around pregnancy, birth and new born care. Integrated into JDA's WaSH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene) program, BLISS courses are home-based, participatory learning sessions taught by women for women. Designed for an illiterate population, lessons are shown in images and drawings.



Female teachers share knowledge about basic care during pregnancy, how to spot warning signs during birth, and how to intervene in potentially life-threatening circumstances when there is no access to trained health workers or a clinic.

These basic midwifery skills empower women to recognize serious conditions and act confidently when the life of mother or child seems in danger. This is a huge feat in a culture where women are often afraid or ashamed to share their concerns around bodily functions and health and are often unable to go to a clinic. Knowledge of basic hygiene, family planning and care for mother and child will change the lives for many families and give more women and their babies a chance at a healthier life.

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مطلوب مشکل تفهمن؟ دارد (دیس 15)

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تیر؟ کیردن مال؟ دن پشت و امیاق زدن به کف پا. نفس کرده تیراند دهن مطل را بک؟ دهن مطل را به آهسته گم؟

دیرین مخدار کم هوا به دهن مطل (به اندازه یوزل) مطل را به کن؟ کیر؟ تفهمنه بیر؟