



PASHTANA DURRANI

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ABOUT

PASHTANA

An activist, Speaker, Innovator, Author and Executive Director of LEARN Afg org. Helping women, young leaders take a leap

Pashtana Durrani, an Afghan feminist, activist, and educator. At 21, she became her family's leader, and founded LEARN Afghanistan, the country's first digital school network. Despite forced exile due to the Taliban takeover, she persistently provides education for hundreds of girls in Afghanistan. Known for her boldness, Durrani is a TV and radio commentator and her story has been featured by PBS, BBC, and more. A visiting fellow at Wellesley Centers for Women, she researches female education and maternal health. Durrani's impact garnered global recognition, earning her titles such as Global Education Champion by the Malala Fund, and being named one of BBC's 100 most influential women. Her biography, 'Last to Eat, Last to Learn,' is set to be published in 2022 (Germany) and 2023 (USA, Italy), celebrating her trailblazing journey.

AS SEEN ON/IN



INTERVIEW TOPICS

- ▶ Girls education
- ▶ Inspiring Others: Pashtana's journey and achievements serve as an inspiration to others.
- ▶ Social Change and Women's Empowerment: As a prominent advocate for gender equality,
- ▶ Education and Empowerment in Afghanistan: Pashtana can provide insights into the current state of education in Afghanistan
- ▶ Overcoming Challenges: As an activist and educator, Pashtana has encountered numerous challenges
- ▶ The Journey of LEARN Afghanistan: Pashtana can discuss the inspiration behind starting LEARN Afghanistan
- ▶ Finding solutions amid crisis

LAST TO EAT LAST TO LEARN

PASHTANA DURRANI



In this poignant and empowering memoir, Pashtana Durrani, an impassioned girls' education advocate, and tribal leader, takes readers on a captivating journey through the uncertain landscape of Afghanistan's future. A third-generation refugee and the daughter of an influential tribal leader, Durrani's life was marked by privilege, growing up in a home that housed a family-run community school despite owning a business where they could have lived comfortably.

But it wasn't until a heart-wrenching incident involving her 9-year-old friend and academic rival, who was forced into marriage at a tender age, that Durrani's interest in girls' education evolved from a professional pursuit to a deeply personal mission.

Written with the assistance of veteran war correspondent Bralo, the text offers consistently adept observations, whether describing a dangerous border crossing as a mission that "required a Beyoncé-like number of wardrobe changes" or trenchantly illustrating how the widely underestimated tribal culture was, in fact, nimbler than the Afghani government and Western aid.

Durrani's voice sparkles with humor and grit, and she is a gifted storyteller, equally comfortable analyzing Afghanistan's gender inequity and defending the strengths of the oft-underestimated culture and country she loves.

'Last to Learn, Last to Eat' will resonate with readers who are passionate about girls' education, human rights, and international development. The book appeals to those interested in the complexities of life in Afghanistan and the triumph of the human spirit amid adversity.

Join Durrani on her courageous journey as she faces multiple obstacles, including the impact of the pandemic, the American military withdrawal from Afghanistan, and the unexpected loss of her father, all of which threaten her mission and family's financial security.

Published/Books

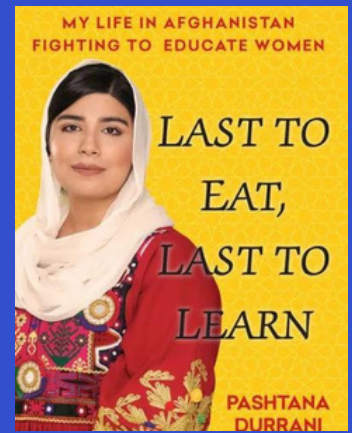


AGENCE LITTERA

goodreads



LAST TO EAT, LAST TO EARN



“Pashtana’s story highlights the resourcefulness and bravery of young women in Afghanistan. I hope readers will be inspired by her mission to give every girl the education she deserves and the opportunity to pursue her dreams.”

Malala Yousafzai REVIEW



“Pashtana’s voice is once-in-a-generation. A born leader who took her own dreams and broke them into a thousand pieces to share with others. Her story is an inspiration. Her work, a mission—more necessary now than ever. Pashtana Durrani came to live out loud. And we should all be listening.”

Amna Nawaz co-anchor PBS NewsHour



“The breathtaking story of a young Afghan activist who will make history. . . Pashtana shares an acute and clever insight. . . She understands Afghanistan and Pashtun society as well as Western culture. She brings an enlightened view of these two worlds that do not understand each other.”

Director of dev.tv and Founder Young Activists Summit

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING



"On March 30th I had an amazing opportunity to attend "Courageous Leadership: Our Efforts to Educate Women & Girls in Afghanistan" where I met Pashtan ... Durrani and learned about her work to provide education to women and girls in Afghanistan. I found the event very informative and thought-provoking and it really opened my eyes to the dangerous situations women and girls are facing in Afghanistan. This also made me think about my own background as a child of immigrants, and how different my life would have been if they hadn't moved here. I really loved attending "Courageous Leadership: Our Efforts to Educate Women & Girls in Afghanistan", and I look forward to going to the next Speaker Series event

Namibia Little -St- Catherine



I met Pashtana Dorani when we were preparing for the annual International Women's Day (IWD) event the Slater International Center hosts each year. As soon as we met, I felt her strength, passion, and love for her work. For the IWD 2022: Women in the World event, Pashtana agreed to be our highlighted speaker. Her speech resonated with the Wellesley College students, faculty and staff in attendance through her storytelling and call to action. She is a strong speaker and advocate and, most importantly, further motivated those in the audience to expand women's rights and the rights of all peoples both locally and globally.

Tana Ruegemer-Slater Center Wellesley



"The leadership series gave me the opportunity to listen to and speak with brave and resilient women activists and leaders. I am grateful that through the series, I had the opportunity to understand Pashtana's phenomenal methods and innovations which are currently being used to increase equality in education for women and girls around the world."

Student -St- Catherine

Suggested Interview Questions

GENERAL QUESTIONS FOR PASHTANA

1. What inspired you to become a girls' education advocate and young leader, and how has your personal journey influenced your commitment to this cause?
- 2.. As a prominent figure in advocacy, what advice would you give to individuals who are passionate about making a difference but feel constrained by societal expectations or limitations?
3. Starting a nonprofit organization that provides educational content to Afghan girls through pre-loaded, solar-powered tablets is a remarkable initiative. What were some of the most rewarding moments or successes you experienced while pursuing this mission?
4. As a prominent figure in advocacy, what advice would you give to individuals who are passionate about making a difference but feel constrained by societal expectations or limitations?

QUESTIONS FOR PASHTANA BOOK: LAST TO EAT, LAST TO LEARN

5. What inspired you to write your book, Last to Eat, Last to Learn?
6. As a tribal woman advocating for change, what advice would you give to other women and girls facing cultural barriers or limitations on their aspirations and dreams?
Your voice as a storyteller shines in your memoir. What do you hope readers will take away from 'Last to Learn, Last to Eat' and how do you envision it impacting conversations surrounding girls' education and human rights?

QUESTIONS FOR PASHTANA NON PROFIT LEARN AFGHAN

7. What inspired you to start LEARN Afghanistan?
8. As the founder of LEARN Afghanistan, what are your long-term goals and aspirations for the organization? How do you plan to expand and reach more communities across Afghanistan?
9. What are your long-term goals for LEARN Afghanistan?
10. How do you collaborate with local communities to support your initiatives?

ASSISTANT CONTACT

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