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Afghan Air Force Abandons Women Pilots

December 28, 2012

Two Afghan women who have recently returned to Afghanistan after taking trainings in United States how to fly military choppers, have been ignored by Afghan air force.

Sourya Saleh and Masooma Hussaini are the two Afghan women who attended 18 months of military helicopter training in the United States. 2nd Lt. Saleh and 2nd Lt. Hussaini are the first female chopper pilots in Afghanistan after the Soviets withdrawal.

Saleh and Hussaini do not believe they have been abondoned by the air force. They prefer to believe that Afghan aire force is just slow and bureaucratic, and that they'll be flying and serving their country soon, Loss Angeles Times reported.

This comes as Afghanistan had limited women's access to education and work during the Taliban regime. They used to serve time with the family and children only.

The new government and the international community have also failed to provide full business and education opportunities for Afghan women.

There are only less than 1,000 women in Afghan military out off 187,000 Afghan forces.