



UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

21st Century

Programme : EPISODE # 88

SHOW OPEN, GRAPHIC AND MUSIC (23')

Coming up on 21st Century (3")

TEASE #1 TAJIKISTAN:

In Tajikistan, young people get a rare chance to question their country's politicians: *FARKHOD: (In Tajik). Even if it is difficult now, if we don't work for the country's well being, who will? We will be patient.*

Building democracy, step by step. (19")

TEASE #2 JORDAN

In Jordan – tens of thousands of refugees and a woman with a big heart:

MUNIRA: (In English) They need me for deliveries for pregnant women, for children, for family planning (CUT: and the methods.) And I felt that I know all this knowledge; why not to give?

Meet the woman known as Mama Munira. (14")

[INTRO #1 TAJIKISTAN BUILDING DEMOCRACY]

Struggling to find jobs and hope for a secure future, many young people are leaving Tajikistan, the former Soviet Republic in Central Asia. But some are determined to find a new way forward, believing they now have a chance to build democratic traditions in their country. (22")

TAJIKISTAN : BUILDING DEMOCRACY (13'57")

VIDEO

AUDIO

NARRATION:

ESTABLISHING SHOT
DUSHANBE CITY.

SHOTS OF YOUTH IN STREETS

REVEAL FARKHOD WALKING IN
STREET.

MUBORAK SAYING GOODBYE
TO HER FATHER AND LEAVING
THE HOUSE.

SHOTS OF GROUP
DISCUSSION FROM DEBATE
CENTER.

Tajikistan in the heart of Central Asia, the poorest former Soviet republic and also one of the youngest, with 70% of the population under 30. Now a simple truth is beginning to make a difference- when given the confidence and the chance to voice their concerns, young Tajiks are stepping forward, eager to help their nascent republic succeed. (23")

In a few days 27 year old Farkhod Jabborov, (**FarHOD JaBORoff**) 20 year old Parviz Khafizzoda (**Par-VEEZ Kaffee--ZOWDa**) and 19 year old Muborak Rustamzoda (**moobor-AHK Rustama-ZODa**), along with 63 other youth leaders, for the first time will publicly debate issues that matter to them. (15")

All with the hope that the government unpracticed in free speech is ready to listen. It's a fragile opportunity to push forward democratic expression. (8")

Muborak lives in Kulob City (**KU-lob**), in

MUBORAK WALKING OUTSIDE. Khatlon (**KAT- lon**) Province, which shares a porous border with Afghanistan. (6")

MUBORAK IN ENGLISH CLASS SOUND UP TEACHER: (In English) Good afternoon teacher, Please take a seat. (3")

NARRATION:

She is studying to become an English teacher at Kulob State University. (3")

TEACHER CALLS ON HER. SOUND UP TEACHER: (In English) Who is ready just now- If someone is ready please hands up. Muborak. (4")

MUBORAK GOES TO BLACK BOARD AND WRITES.

MUBORAK: (In Tajik)

MUBORAK ON CAM What I want most is for education to be improved. I want the system to change. (8")

SOUND UP MUBORAK: (In English) For example she is happy today. It's a simple sentence. (3")

MUBORAK WRITES ON BLACK BOARD.

NARRATION:

MUBORAK PARTICIPATING IN ENGLISH CLASS. Independence for this country came with sacrifices. One, was the loss of Soviet funding of state institutions which devastated the quality of education, especially in the rural areas, where 85% of the population live. (13")

THEN SOUND UP OF MUBORAK SOUND UP MUBORAK: (In English) "Unhappy."

SPEAKING IN ENGLISH CLASS.

MUBORAK ON CAM

MUBORAK: (In Tajik)

As we know, society will not develop without women's active participation // If the women are educated, society will be educated and able to develop. (8")

SHOTS OF MALE AND FEMALE
STUDENTS IN CLASS.

NARRATION: When the soviet union fell, a rise in Islamic fundamentalism led to a 5-year civil war that ended 1997. (9")

The secular government which emerged, is still uneasy about the potential of Islamic radicalism so some measures were put in place, such as no religious schools for boys, no attending mosques or beards under the age of 18 - and, for girls, no full head coverings in school. Muborak feels these restrictions prohibit many girls from continuing their education. (21")

MUBORAK WALKING ACROSS
CAMPUS SURROUNDED BY
MALE STUDENTS

MUBORAK: (In Tajik)

Because of their low economic status and conservative Muslim mentality, some parents take girls out of school at age 14 for marriage. But they are not ready to start a family. // The government should provide better access to education for village girls. (21")

MUBORAK INSTRUCTS GIRLS
IN LEADERSHIP SEMINAR.

SOUND UP MUBORAK:

*Who can be a leader-What kind of person?"
And why? Does anybody know? Do you
know? (7")*

NARRATION: Muborak was trained in social
outreach and women's rights by a local
organization called Youth of the 21st Century
which receives financial support and
guidance from the UN Democracy Fund.
(12")

Their focus is on helping young people have
a voice in the way their country is run.
Muborak now passes on what she's learned
to other girls hoping to inspire them to
pursue their education and seek a bigger
role in their country's future. (12")

MUBORAK ASKS GIRLS
QUESTION IN SEMINAR.

GIRL #1: If we want to be leaders in the
future we should try hard. Only with absolute
diligence and years of hard work can we
become future leaders. (12")

MUBORAK: *(In Tajik)*

*So, you can tell yourselves with confidence
that in the future you can all be leaders. So
what kind of challenges can girls face as
they continue their education? (10")*

MUBORAK AT HOME WITH HER
FATHER IN THE KITCHEN.

MUBORAK'S FATHER: MUQIMOV

RUSTAM SAIDATOEVICH: *(In Tajik)*

MUBORAK'S FATHER ON CAM

I am proud to have such a smart and wise daughter as Muborak. It is very important for girls to be educated, so they can be independent and earn a living. (15")

SHOTS OF PEOPLE WALKING
IN THE STREETS OF
DUSHANBE.

NARRATION: In the capital, Dushanbe, a lack of resources combined with corruption has resulted in an acute housing shortage. Sending real estate prices skyrocketing, and making living in the city unaffordable for young Tajiks. (11")

FARKHOD WALKING IN
IN THE STREET ON HIS WAY
TO WORK.

TEACHING IN CLASS

FARKHOD: (In Tajik)

The government granted more than a thousand plots of land for housing, but unfortunately some corrupt politicians sold them for other uses. (13")

SHOTS OF STUDENTS

FARKHOD ON CAM

NARRATION:

TEACHING IN CLASS

Farkhod teaches International Law at Tajik State Commercial University in Dushanbe but, despite his job, is unable to afford the high price of an apartment for his young family. (12")

FARKHOD IN VAN TRANSPORT
GOING HOME.
FARKHOD ARRIVES BACK
HOME FARKHOD'S WIFE AND
SON.

With his wife and newborn son, they now live outside the city, in Sharora Village with his mother and his brother's family. Both his brother and his father have been forced to go abroad to find work with a decent wage

FARKHOD AND FAMILY
DRINKING TEA TOGETHER.

to support their families. He hopes he won't have to follow them. (15")

FARKHOD AND FAMILY
DRINKING TEA TOGETHER.

FARKHOD: (In Tajik)
Everyday Tajiks migrate to Russia looking for jobs/ because they want a better life. My father had to go to Russia to work because we needed the money to pay for our education. (10")

FARKHOD'S MOM ON CAM

FARKHOD'S MOTHER: (In Tajik) *I want factories and businesses to open here, so that young people don't have to leave, like my husband did. (12")*

FARKHOD AND HIS MOTHER
READING TO NIECE.

NARRATION:
In the last 20 years, the rate of people migrating to Russia has risen sharply as both men and women, labourers and the educated, leave to seek work. (8.5")

SOUND UP GIRL: *"It's because of the money- That's the reason." (3")*

AIRPORT MIGRANTS LEAVING
ON FLIGHTS TO RUSSIA.
SAYING GOOD BYE TO THEIR
FAMILIES

NARRATION:
With few natural resources and little industrial development, nearly half of Tajikistan's GDP comes from remittances sent home by migrant workers like this young man and woman, which many families depend on. (11")

TEENAGERS WALKING IN THE
STREET AT NIGHT.

But the young people who remain in
Tajikistan are faced with low wages and high
unemployment. (5")

KIDS ON BIKES AT NIGHT.

And with 35% percent of Tajikistan's
population between the ages of 14 and 30,
youth development is a priority for Malikshoh
Nematov, (**Mal- EEK-show Nem- AH-toff**)
Chairman of the Committee on Youth
Affairs. (10")

MALIKSHOH NEMATOV ON
CAM

MALIKSHOH NEMATOV: *Chairman of the
Committee on Youth Affairs: (In Tajik)*
*There are many issues including terrorism,
extremism and drug trafficking that directly
affect our youth. That's why the government
of Tajikistan is trying to involve the youth in
the political process. (20")*

YOUTH OF THE 21ST CENTURY
WALKING DOWN STREET.

UMED ON CAM

UMED: *(In Russian)*
*A lack of participation by young people in
the serious decision-making of our country
can lead to apathy. And this can also lead to
a rise in crime. (11")*

YOUTH MEETING WITH UMED
AT YOUTH OF THE 21ST
CENTURY.

YOUTH MEETING WITH UMED
AT YOUTH OF THE 21ST
CENTURY.

NARRATION:
Umed Uligov (**OO-med ULL-i-goff**) runs
The Youth of the 21st Century leadership
program which has trained both Farkhod
and Muborak. The goal is to motivate young
people to become active in building
democracy. (10")

MEETING AT YOUTH OF THE
21ST CENTURY.

SOUND UP UMED: (In Russian)

So let's start ...

OLAM: (In Russian) *Let's talk about housing problems. What do we all think should be done? .(8")*

UMED: (In Russian) *The point of these seminars is to encourage young people to open up and realize they have a voice in the political process.(8")*

SOUND UP PARVIS: (In Russian) *As we know, there is a lack of jobs.(4")*

PARVIS WALKING DOWN HALL

NARRATION: A prominent student in this group is Parvis Khafizzoda, who studies at the Russian Tajik University. He's completed the Youth of the 21st Century's leadership program, (7")

PARVIS ON CAM

PARVIS: (In Russian) *I'm not a member of any political party because I have liberal views on everything.// And we do not have any liberal parties in Tajikistan. Perhaps in the future I will create a liberal party. (16") I would address real problems - economic issues, migration - the things that directly affect the youth.*

PARVIS AT SOUND CONTROL
PARVIS SINGING
YOUTH CLAPPING ALONG

Tajik national culture needs to be brought back.(15")

I believe that if the youth of the country remain active in the solutions of the country's problems we will be able to make our country a better place.
After the seminars at Youth of the 21st Century I feel like I can achieve anything.
(24")

UMED AT THE YOUTH OF THE
21ST CENTURY OFFICE.

NARRATION:

FARKHOD WITH AGRARIAN
PART YOUTH GROUP.

With the help of the Tajik Government and the UN Democracy Fund, Youth of the 21st Century started the first National Debate Center, a youth forum, where 63 elected youth leaders from universities and youth groups all over the country who have been trained in public debating, will come together for the first time, to have an open dialogue with a government official, on how to best solve the problems facing their young country. (22")

MUBORAK TALKING WITH DAD.

MUBORAK ON CAM

MUBORAK: *(In Tajik) I'm a little nervous, but I will try to be strong. (4")*

FARKHOD ON CAM
FARKHOD IN AGRARIAN
YOUTH MEETING.

FARKHOD: *(In Tajik)*
I'm very excited to participate in this debate.
We want our opinion to be heard! (7")

MUBORAK SAYS GOODBYE TO
DAD AND LEAVES.
AND WALKS WITH GIRLS.

MUBORAK'S FATHER: *(In Tajik)*
They are young leaders and the future of the country is depends on them. What happens

tomorrow is in their hands. (12")

NATIONAL DEBATE CENTER

SOUND UP UMED:(In Tajik)

Farkhodjon Jabborov (2")

FARKHOD SPEECH

SOUND UP FARKHOD SPEECH: (In Tajik)

The government has to create free and affordable housing programs for its citizens, especially the youth. (11")

MUBORAK GIVING SPEECH.

SOUND UP MUBORAK SPEECH:

Due to low salaries at the government institutions, the quality of education is poor. (5")

YOUTH LEADERS RESPONSES

MAN#1:

TO MUBORAK'S SPEECH.

Can you please explain better the issue of low quality education? (5")

MAN#1

MUBORAK: (In Tajik)

Certainly, the quality of education is very poor because those that are supposed to monitor the quality of education don't do it. (9")

YOUTH LEADER IN AUDIENCE
LISTENING AND RAISING
HANDS.

NARRATION:

Though patience is needed to decipher regional dialects, they are able to discover common ground. (4.5")

YOUTH LEADERS RESPONSES
TO MUBORAK'S SPEECH.

FEMALE #1

AUDIENCE CLAPS

FEMALE#1:

"I would like to say only one thing about education in our country. One of the biggest problems is bribery. (Applause) So many students just BUY their academic credits instead of going to class. This bribery is a huge problem. (18")

FIRST DEPUTY OF Y.A.
WALKS IN AND GREETES
AUDIENCE.

NARRATION:

The First Deputy of the Committee on Youth Affairs, Juraev Kabirjon Karimjonovich, has come to hear what the young leaders have to say.... It is a groundbreaking event. And their first chance to put the debating skills they've learned from the youth of the 21st century's leadership program to the test. (16.5")

SOUND UP FIRST DEPUTY: (In Tajik)

Dear attendees of this discussion, I'm ready to answer your questions.(4")

MUBORAK ON CAM

MUBORAK: (In Tajik) *In the past there was no chance for youth to meet with a government official to solve their problems face to face. It is a great opportunity for us (8")*

.

NARRATION:

AUDIENCE YOUTH LEADERS

These young people are bravely speaking up for their generation. These are un-

charted waters for the young leaders who must find a way to delicately navigate this new open exchange with a government, previously out of reach. (10")

FIRST DEPUTY OF Y.A.

Q & A WITH YOUTH LEADERS.

One young leader challenges the law requiring 2 years of mandatory military service. (4.5")

FIRST DEPUTY OF Y.A.

Q & A WITH YOUTH LEADERS.

MAN#3

MAN #3: (In Tajik)

Once a guy turns 21 he has to serve in the army. Why can't they wait until he graduates? Why can't a guy graduate from college and then AFTER be called up for the army? (8"

FIRST DEPUTY OF Y.A.

Q & A WITH YOUTH LEADERS.

MAN#3

SOUND UP FIRST DEPUTY: (In Tajik)

What I am going to do is to check it first according to the law so that I don't provide you with the wrong answer. That's why I am not going to answer you now. (7")

NARRATION:

Although questions remain unanswered, this is a big step for a country where freedom of speech has not been valued.

FIRST DEPUTY OF Y.A.

ON CAM

FIRST DEPUTY: (In Tajik)

It's very good when young people speak out. // It proves that our young generation is not frozen, but that they are moving forward and developing. (9")

YOUTH LEADERS IN
DISCUSSION GROUPS

MUBORAK: (In Tajik)

We come together from different parts and regions of Tajikistan. We work together and it's one step forward for us. (12")

FARKHOD AND MUBORAK
PACKING UP.

FARKHOD: (In Tajik)

*Even if it is difficult now, if we don't work for the country's well being, who will?
We will be patient. (7")*

IN A SCHOOLYARD YOUNG
KIDS HOLD HANDS AS THEY
TURN TOGETHER IN ONE BIG
CIRCLE.

NARRATION:

In the coming months, Farkhod, Parvis and Muborak will draft a proposal for reforms to parliament: young pioneers - laying the foundation for a stronger democracy for the next generation. (14")

[INTRO #2 JORDAN SYRIA'S REFUGEES MEET MAMA MUNIRA]

Over the past three years, Syria's civil war has left more than 130,000 dead and forced millions to flee to neighbouring countries like Jordan. In the midst of this catastrophe, one extraordinary woman remains focused on her work: changing lives for the better. (18")

JORDAN: SYRIA'S REFUGEES MEET MAMA MUNIRA (9'18")

VIDEO

AUDIO

NARRATION

DRIVING SHOTS:

here, on a windswept desert plain in Jordan sits the za'atari refugee camp, just ten kilometers from Syria. (8")

CAMP SHOTS:

Across the border, people are dying every day in a brutal civil war. millions have lost their homes. (8")

ZA'ATARI

WOMEN WAITING

80,000 Syrians have found shelter here amid the dust and grime. And many have come to rely on an extraordinary woman they call mama Munira. (18")

MUNIRA ON CAMERA,

MUNIRA SHABAN: (In English)

When they ask for me, "where is mama munira," I am so happy. I run. "what do you want?" [laughs] (5")

MUNIRA IN OFFICE SHOWING
BIRTH CONTROL PILLS

NARRATION

Munira Shaban is Jordan's most famous nurse/midwife. She advocates for family planning, dispenses birth control and counsels pregnant women. (9")

MUNIRA (in English)

They need me for deliveries for pregnant

MUNIRA ON CAMERA

women, for children, for family planning and the methods. and I felt that I know all this knowledge; why not to give? (10")

MUNIRA GREETES WOMAN, IN
OFFICE SHOWING PILLS

NARRATION:

And Munira gives a lot. She came out of retirement in her late sixties to work at Zaatari. Each morning she leaves her home at dawn for the 90-minute commute. (9")

MUNA ON CAMERA

MUNA IDRIS

Munira, I think she's a wonderful lady. she's a very positive person. (3")

NARRATION:

Muna Idris of the UN population fund or UNFPA hired Munira to work with Syrian refugees. (6")

MUNA IDRIS

She's doing a very tough job and supporting in a challenging situation. (3")

NASRIA MAKING TEA

NARRATION

Munira is supporting patients like Nasria Maslamani, who is pregnant with her first child. (5")

WALKING SHOT NASRIA AND
MOTHER WALKING,

Nasria lives with her husband Ziad and her mother in a two-room tent. Fearing for their lives, they fled Syria in 2012, leaving brothers and sisters behind. They

NASRIA WITH MUNIRA

are worried about raising their son in the camp's unsanitary conditions. (14")

ZIAD

ZIAD (In Arabic)

This camp has a lot of diseases // here the air is very dusty and its very cold. the living conditions are harder here than in Syria. (13")

NASRIA:

NASRIA (In Arabic)

I worry my son will catch a disease from the rats. My wish is to return home and to bring up my child there, that's the most important thing. (9")

NASRIA WITH MUNIRA AT CLINIC

NARRATION

Nasria visits Munira about once a week for advice. (3")

MUNIRA

I discovered she doesn't know her blood grouping, also I told her not to visit any sick person here in the camp. (7")

ZA'ATARI CAMP MARKETS

NARRATION:

Opened in the summer of 2012, Za'atari now resembles a small town, with trailers replacing some of the tents, satellite dishes, and shops set up by refugees to sell produce and household goods. (11")

MUNIRA WITH PATIENT

But this commerce can be a source of conflict. Surprisingly, one of the most

contentious commodities is baby formula... and Munira decides who gets it. (9")

MUNIRA

I examine the woman, if she has lots of milk, then I tell her about advantages and disadvantages of breast milk. (7")

NARRATION

Munira only approves baby formula for mothers who are not producing milk. But lots of people want formula to barter or sell. (8")

MUNA IDRIS (In English)

she's been harassed.//– men have come and said, "you have to give me the formula. otherwise, i'm going to beat you." (6")

MUNIRA (In English)

Sometimes they come in shouting: "we want milk." then when I explain, they want it by hook or by crook, by force. so I advise them, if they shout, never mind because i got used to it. (laughs) (10")

NARRATION:

Mmunira is also willing to take on another controversial practice ... one she believes is dangerous to Syrian girls. (7")

MUNIRA IN LECTURE

MUNIRA (In English)

*They like to get married young – 12, 13, 14. and they get children, // If she is 18 or 20, they say she is **halas**; she cannot get married later. They think that halas is finished. (15")*

NARRATION:

Many of these women married as teenagers... and had lots of children. now a widow, Amal had 4 girls by the time she was 16, and then she had three boys. one of her own daughters also had four girls by 16. (14")

AMAL ON CAMERA

AMAL (In Arabic)

every year she'd get pregnant // one child is underweight and the second child she delivered at the camp and is breastfeeding, has now developed a calcium deficiency. (12")

WOMEN OUTSIDE CLINIC

NARRATION

Munira says that most of these women now agree that their daughters should wait until 18 before they marry. (5.5")

MUNIRA

They say, yes, because she will not finish high school. She cannot read and write.

*How can she help her children to learn
and to read and to send to the school?
(8")*

STILLS OF YOUNGER MUNIRA

SHOTS OF WOMEN LISTENING

AMAL TALKS TO MUNIRA,

NARRATION:

For all her warmth and knowledge,
Munira's strength has been tested
throughout her life. When she was only
15, she had to fight to study nursing when
her uncle was dead set against it. (10")

MUNIRA *(In English)*

*He spit on my father, what, you want to
send your daughter to be a nurse? to
work in a hospital? before a long time,
people, they don't like their daughters to
learn nursing. (11")*

MUNIRA IN OFFICE

NARRATION

But Munira prevailed and has never
stopped learning. After becoming a
nurse, she learned to deliver babies, and
studied family planning at a time when
that too was controversial. (9")

MUNIRA

*Many people against it. Even I remember
in the clinic, I was talking with a woman,
and she asked the doctor, "I want to have
a space between my child and the other
child." And he told her, "how many
children you have?" She told him, "I have
three." he said, "go, go, go. go back.
when you have seven or eight, come*

back. I will advise. (20")

NARRATION

Munira kept taking courses – at home and abroad - and soon, she was giving them. (6")

MUNIRA ON TV

Munira had her own show promoting women's health on Jordanian television. (3")

MUNIRA FILMS

She became a well-known celebrity. (2")

MUNIRA CONGRATULATES WOMEN AND KISSES HER CHEEK

After 30 years, the ministry of health could no longer afford to pay Munira so she retired. seeing a need for women's education in this poor section of Jordan's capital, Munira volunteered to set up a community center. here women learn basic skills... even reading. (20")

Munira still helps out here even though she has a full time job in Zaatari. (3")

KIDS IN PLAYGROUND

Munira lives for her successes in the camp – and they are many (3")

MUNIRA

i am so happy that now awareness is there – although i see lots of children there, lots of pregnancies there. but it's going on. family planning is working very

well there (9")

NARRATION

MUNIRA WITH HER BROTHER

When she's not at work, munira grows lemons and limes in her extensive garden. She lives alone. Her brother is one of her few surviving relatives. (13")

Munira's living room is lined with awards and honors she's received, but it is also a shrine to her two daughters, who died tragically young of a rare genetic disorder. (11.5")

MUNIRA

MORE SHOTS OF WOMEN IN LECTURE

The eldest died at 11 years, and the youngest died at 9 years. And I aborted twice male, god bless them. They are angels and they went to God. (15")

NARRATION:

As she's done her whole life, Munira finds solace in helping women and children stay healthy. (5")

MUNIRA IN CAMP WITH WOMEN

MUNIRA,
Sometimes when I go there, I feel so happy. I don't feel that I'm tired from going and coming. I love my work, I don't feel that these people different than us.. I think they are good women. they want to go home. (16")

CLOSE

And that's all for this edition of 21st Century. Sharing the world's stories. I'm Daljit Dhaliwal. Until next time. Goodbye (10")

CREDITS

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TAJIKISTAN : BUILDING DEMOCRACY

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JORDAN SYRIA'S REFUGEES MEET MAMA MUNIRA

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