



Abdulmanan Arghand

Journalist

Date of Birth: 1983

Date of Assassination: April 25, 2018

Place of Assassination: Kandahar Province

Person/Group Responsible for Assassination: Unknown Armed Assailants

Life and Education

Abdulmanan Arghand was born in 1983 in Pashmul village, Zharai district, Kandahar province, into a family that highly valued education. He completed his high school education at Zahir Shahi High School and continued his studies in journalism at Mirwais Nika private University in Kandahar city. According to Pajhwok News Agency, Arghand worked as a journalist in Kandahar for over a decade. On the day of his assassination, while on his way to work, he was attacked and killed by armed men in Kandahar city's 9th district. Notably, Arghand's family, stating they had no personal enmity with anyone, held the Taliban responsible for his murder. Abdulmanan Arghand is survived by one daughter and two sons.

Activities

According to BBC, Nai-Supporting Open Media in Afghanistan- reported that Mr. Arghand had worked as a journalist for five years with Kabul News and several local media outlets in Kandahar. Beyond his media work, Arghand was actively involved in civil society, cultural initiatives, and education. His family noted that he was always seeking to create opportunities for women and his colleagues. One of Arghand's significant contributions was his reporting on the activities of the Departments of Women's Affairs, which, according to a colleague, spurred healthy competition among the departments and increased efforts to create opportunities for women.

Challenges During His Activism

Journalists in Afghanistan have always faced numerous challenges, particularly security threats from armed and extremist groups. Arghand, as a journalist in Afghanistan, confronted these risks throughout his career. Pajhwok News Agency, citing Arghand's family, reported that he had received multiple death threats from individuals claiming to be armed Taliban members.

Awards and Honors

Despite his many achievements in journalism and civil society, Abdulmanan Arghand did not receive the recognition and support he deserved. He was awarded certificates of appreciation by the Departments of Women's Affairs in Kandahar and Zabul provinces, as well as the Department of Information and Culture in Kandahar.

Photos / Notes

A photo of Abdulmanan Arghand,
apparently in the field



Aspirations and Goals

According to his family, Abdulmanan Arghand dreamed of establishing a vocational institute for journalists. Another of his aspirations was to create an international library in Afghanistan focused on human rights, journalism, and women's civil activities. Unfortunately, these dreams were never fulfilled.

Reactions to the Assassination

Following Mr. Arghand's assassination, Etilaatroz newspaper reported that two suspects were arrested in connection with the case by security forces, and their files were sent to the Attorney General's Office. A year after his murder, Etilaatroz reported that the perpetrators had been sentenced to death, according to the Attorney General's Office.

Additionally, Pajhwok News Agency noted that the President, the Chief Executive, and all journalist protection organizations in Afghanistan condemned Abdulmanan Arghand's murder, calling for the arrest of those responsible and urging greater security for journalists. BBC reported that Nai called on Kandahar's local authorities to seriously investigate the murder. The assassination also drew widespread reactions from information and culture officials and journalists across various provinces.

Links

Here are some of the links to the news about the assassination of Abdulmanan Arghand:

1. BBC News Report

<https://www.bbc.com/persian/afghanistan-43891338#:~:text=%D8%B9%D8%A8%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D9%86%D8%A7%D9%86%20%D8%A7%D8%B1%D8%BA%D9%86%D8%AF%D8%8C%20%D8%AE%D8%A8%D8%B1%D9%86%DA%AF%D8%A7%D8%B1%20%D9%85%D8%AD%D9%84%DB%8C%20%D8%AA%D9%84%D9%88%DB%8C%D8%B2%DB%8C%D9%88%D9%86%20%DA%A9%D8%A7%D8%A8%D9%84%20%D9%86%DB%8C%D9%88%D8%B2%D8%8C%20%D8%A7%D8%B2%20%D8%B1%D8%B3%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%87>

2. Etelaate Roza Report

<https://www.etilaatroz.com/59996/%DB%8C%DA%A9-%D8%AE%D8%A8%D8%B1%D9%86%DA%AF%D8%A7%D8%B1-%D8%AF%D8%B1-%D9%88%D9%84%D8%A7%DB%8C%D8%AA-%D8%AC%D9%86%D9%88%D8%A8%DB%8C-%D9%82%D9%86%D8%AF%D9%87%D8%A7%D8%B1-%DA%A9%D8%B4%D8%AA%D9%87-%D8%B4/>

3. Afghan Voice Agency Report

<http://avapress.com/fa/news/162482/>

4. VOA Report

<https://www.darivoa.com/a/unknown-gunmen-killed-an-afghan-journalist-in-Kandahar/4363865.html>

5. Azadi Radio Report

<https://da.azadiradio.com/a/29199928.html>

Case Status

As mentioned, a year after Abdulmanan Arghand's assassination, the media reported that the perpetrators were sentenced to death. However, his family remains uncertain whether the sentence has been carried out.