

# Fabricants de Futur Identity Questionnaire

Re-building a positive Afghan identity, not only in a social and community context but also in relation to other nations and peoples of the world.

This questionnaire is a first step by Fabricants de Futur to collaborate with Afghan people. We can see that there is an immense amount of work to do on a practical level. This is the re-building of an education system, health system, democratic elections, police force, legal system, stable government and economy etc...

Our team will be able to offer many skills and ideas which could be applied to some of these areas, especially education and communication methods.

Beyond this important work we can see that there is a need to re-build the Afghan identity. Afghan people will need strong imagery and symbols in order to form a base for re-building a new positive identity - internally and in relation to other nations and peoples. Afghan people will need to consider what it is to be a modern Afghan man or woman, and what kind of identity they would like to develop.

It is important to recover all of the positive cultural wisdom and traditions which have been overshadowed, or perhaps even destroyed, by images of terrorism, ignorance, extremist religious practice and helplessness. This positive material can be used to develop ideas about a modern Afghan identity and all this identifying material could be integrated into any practical work we do in Afghanistan.

We ask you to think very carefully about your most positive identifying cultural material. It could be traditional stories, festivals, foods, songs and music, plants, trees and animals of symbolic importance, also any mountains, rivers or historic buildings of symbolic importance, the most positive aspects of the Muslim religion, and of course, the characteristics of the Afghan people.

## The Questionnaire

Age:

Man/Woman:

Province:

Please give as much information as possible.

For example:

**A symbolic animal : the horse** (*explain why the horse is an important symbol, name any festivals or traditional songs about the horse, name any Afghan special breed of horse, etc.*)

Drawings are also welcome. Fabricants de Futur thanks you for your support.

**1. Traditional stories.** Please give the titles of any important traditional stories. What are the stories about?

**2. Festivals.** What are the most important festivals? What do they celebrate? Please say if they are regional or national festivals.

**3. Foods and cooking.** What are the most important foods or cooked dishes? Are they regional or national?

4. **Songs and music.** Please name any important traditional songs. What are the songs about? What traditional instruments are played in Afghanistan?

5. **Plants, trees and animals.** Please name any plants, trees or animals of symbolic importance. Please explain why they are important and in which regions they live.

6. **Mountains, rivers and buildings.** Please name any mountains, rivers or buildings of symbolic importance. Please explain why they are important and their location.

7. **Muslim religion.** What are the most positive aspects of the Muslim religion? You can compare with other religions.

8. **Afghan characteristics.** What are the typical characteristics of an Afghan person? You can compare with other nationalities and also compare with other regions of your country.

9. **Modern Afghan Identity.** Please give as much information as possible.

Can you describe your ideas about positive Afghan modern identity?

What values would be most important?

What opportunities would you like Afghan people to have?

How would you like people from other countries and religions to view the modern Afghan man or woman?

10. **Important cultural figures.** Please name any important Afghan writers, poets, philosophers, artists, composers, musicians and dancers.

**Please give any other comments, drawings or suggestions:**