



# Female Soldiers conduct live fire drill at KMTC

A female Soldier in the Afghan National Army qualifies on the AK-47 in the unsupported prone position during a recent live fire drill at the Kabul Military Training Center. Twenty-five women qualified on the weapon.



Courtesy photo

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**KABUL, Afghanistan** – Twenty-five female officers and noncommissioned officers in the Afghan National Army performed a live fire drill recently to familiarize themselves with the AK-47 here at the Kabul Military Training Center.

The Soldiers learned how the weapon is constructed as well as shooting techniques and later qualified on the weapon. They performed live fire exercises in three positions: prone unsupported, kneeling and standing. The Soldiers needed to hit 10 out of 30 targets for qualification in each position.

“It is my first time shooting the AK-47 and I am proud to have this opportunity and training,” said Nasima, an ANA officer. “I hope for more training like this because it is useful for me to help defend my country.”

The officer in charge of the female Soldiers saw the exercise as both an excellent opportunity for the female Soldiers to make history.

“It is a proud moment for the women of Afghanistan,” said Brig. Gen. Khatool, commander of the female Soldiers. “We are marking our place in the ANA by conducting a live fire exercise with the female Soldiers for the first time.”

The training will help integrate the female Soldiers into the ANA ranks

as well as equalize the training among men and women.

“Each (Soldier) needs to get maximum practice on her weapon to become familiar and comfortable with it. We will achieve this with more practice,” said General Khatool. “Our knowledge of the AK-47 will help our brothers.”

The general encourages women to become members of the ANA and help defend Afghanistan.

“Women make up half of our society. I encourage my brave sisters to participate in our country’s future and secure territorial our integrity and national independence, and ensure peace and social stability,” said General Khatool. 

Photos available upon request to [TallmanR@cfc-a.centcom.mil](mailto:TallmanR@cfc-a.centcom.mil)