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European Languages

زبان های اروپایی

Afghanistan Rights Monitor (ARM)

Two Afghan children killed in war everyday in 2010

02/09/2011

Kabul — About 739 children lost their lives in the conflict-related security incidents in Afghanistan from 1 January to 31 December 2010, according to figures compiled in an annual report of Afghanistan Rights Monitor (ARM).

[The report /Civilian Casualties of War 2010/](#), released on 1 February 2011, said in total over 2,421 civilian Afghans were killed in the war last year out of which 30 percent were children (under-18).

A majority of the children were killed by Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) followed by suicide attacks, air strikes and mortars.

About 64 percent of the reported child deaths were attributed to the Armed Opposition Groups (AOGs); US/NATO forces were blamed for 17 percent of the deaths; pro-government local forces caused 4 percent of the deaths; and 15 percent of the deaths occurred in the security incidents which could not be attributed to an identifiable group.

While war-related child deaths in 2010 were significantly lower than a year before (1,050 deaths in 2009), the overall child casualties and rights violations trends remained strong. Children were highly vulnerable to the harms of war but little was done by the combatant sides, particularly by the AOGs, to ensure child safety and security during military and security incidents.

Many of the reported child casualties in 2010 happened in the insecure south of the country but security incidents involving children were also reported elsewhere in the country. In terms of

direct impacts of war, the central Bamyān and the northern Panjshir provinces were the safest areas for children. Kandahar, Helmand, Kunar and Kunduz were among the least secure provinces.