

Name: Kaur, Harbans Interviewed 5/5/23, Vancouver, Canada

Gardiz: Province

I started my life in Kunduz and travelled to different provinces due to security conditions. After the wedding, my husband and I went to Charikar, and my husband was a soldier there, and I was working as a soldier, because with Vajivod, who was a soldier, there was no news of the government's privileges and we had no coupon except to serve in the army and eat bread. In Visakha, Muslims and Sikhs used to get together and celebrate a lot.

Where did you go to school?

We had a teacher at home for our children, but after 4 months, the Taliban warned him not to go to Hindu's house and even killed his husband, and after that day, our children studied only in school.

Which languages do you speak and which languages do you know?

At home, we speak our own language, and among people, we speak Farsi and Pashto as necessary.

How were the people's attitude towards you? How happy are you with the people who lived in the same area as you?

My grandchildren have many friends from school and from other areas. And a Muslim lady worked in our house and washed clothes. We were so good and close to that lady that I would wait for the bread until she entered the house, and in return she would serve us honestly and take a halal wage with her.

How many gurdwaras were there in the area where you lived?

There were 3 in Ghazni and 2 in Nangarhar. In Gardiz, there was one, but after a period of time, it was removed.

How was your childhood in Afghanistan?

I was not in one city for a long time, and due to family and security reasons, I moved from one city to another, so all my childhood was spent in such adventures.

How was your relationship with your neighbours? Did you share in each other's happy and sad events?

We used to hang out a lot during Eid and Visakha. We sewed new clothes and were happy.

Which foods do you eat and which not?

In our school, meat is not allowed, but we cook everything at home.

When did you decide to leave the country and why?

When the Taliban came for the first time and we went from Gardiz to Ghazni, and after that because there were many misfortunes and we had no place to stay, we lived in Dharamsal and slowly our daughters matured and we had to leave the Dharamsal and go to Kabul. After a while, we went to Nangarhar, we lived there until the second Talib period, and then we went to India, and finally we came to Canada. It is not in my heart to go again, and no one from our people will go because of this fog. Where should I go alone?