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JAM – Summer 2022: One crisis after another....

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Editorial JAM – Summer 2022: One crisis after another....

Whilst we had hoped to focus this editorial on a new era post-COVID-19, the latter is dominating many aspects of our lives and communities. In addition, there are great humanitarian crises in Pakistan with its natural disasters following the monsoon and in Afghanistan the terrible oppression of women, especially educated women such as doctors and midwives. One thing known to midwives around the world is that whatever the nature of the disaster women will continue to give birth under the most devastating circumstances. We also know this is the time and the place where women need their midwives most!

In this first issue of 2022, the “*Journal of Asian Midwives*” brings you interesting articles covering Bangladesh, Pakistan, Indonesia, and Afghanistan.

The authors of the paper in this issue titled ‘Hidden Relationships: Perspectives on Leadership and Management in Afghan Maternity Services - An Ethnographic Exploration’ have asked to the editors to point out to the readers of *JAM* that they are very aware that the data presented were collected under the previous government in Afghanistan. This was at a time when women had greater freedom in Afghan society. Although the paper appropriately criticises the previous health system, they are acutely aware of the current regimes’ devastating impact on maternity services, the midwives and female doctors as well as women’s health and freedom in general. The editors of *JAM* have decided to publish this paper because it offers important insights into the complexity of health systems and politics in the country that are mostly missing from the literature. Afghanistan is not the only low-income country in Asia where written policies, guidelines and protocols can be very different from what happens in reality, in ordinary people’s everyday life.

Last, but not least, in a world where academic publishing is big business and the number of fake or predatory journals is growing, we would like to emphasize that with this journal we aim to support free and open dissemination of evidence-based midwifery knowledge, ideas, theories and research across the globe. The “*Journal of Asian Midwives*” supports the advancement of the midwifery profession in the Asian region, by providing a sound peer-review process followed by immediate Open Access on the internet without charging a fee to our authors or our readers.

The *Journal of Asian Midwives*’ editorial team

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