**Rwanda: It’s the No. 1 Country For Women In Politics-But Not In Daily Life**

Rwanda has been able to achieve the highest percentage of women within their government out of any other country in the world. As of 2016, 64% of the seats are held by women. This high percentage has been achieved thanks to changes in Rwanda’s Constitution, ratified in 2003, which requires that 30 percent of parliamentary seats be reserved for women. Women in the country however still face a myriad of problems when it comes to everyday life mainly due to the large resistance to feminism within their culture. Women are still treated as servants by the males and many see the reason for this being that Rwanda didn’t undergo the necessary cultural changes that other countries, such as the United States, usually go through when granting more rights to previously under-represented groups. Regardless, Rwanda is a model for the rest of the world showing what happens in a properly diversified government.

**No Jirga Can Prevent Women From Voting: Sherry**

Pakistan had granted women suffrage in 1947 and the right to vote for women has been constitutionally guaranteed but there has consistently been resistance preventing them to fully participate in politics. Structural and cultural barriers have discouraged women from voting but recent additions to the Representation of the People Act of 1976, which called for the preservation of seats for women and non-Muslims in parliament, have now made it illegal to prevent women from voting or exercising their right to vote. Previously, village courts in Pakistan have barred women from voting for the reasons of customs and culture. Another town, Dhurnal, had 4,000 women registered to vote but apparently none of them actually had casted a ballot in 2015.

**Growing Trends of Female Jihadism in Bangladesh**

Bangladesh has suffered an increase in female suicide bombers as the military in the country continues to evolve. Bangladesh had seen its first female suicide bombing just over 3 months ago during a police raid of a militant hideout in Dhaka. The bomber, Shakira, was the wife of a man belonging to the pro-ISIS Neo-Jamiaul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB). She detonated the explosives while pretending to surrender to police forces. Since then there have been several occasions where female suicide bombers have been apprehended by counterterrorism officials. The trend displays an increased effort by several violent extremist organizations to engage young women and girls as potential recruits.

**Babies used in Suicide Bombings, Officials Warn**

Female suicide bombers in Nigeria have started carrying babies in order to avoid detection prior to their attacks. There was an attack in the (Hum) of Madagali in which 2 women detonated devices killing two babies, themselves, and 4 others. Boko Haram, an insurgent group, is suspected to have been involved in this attack and represents a dangerous trend in the use of infants by terrorist organizations. There was also a similar attack in December in which 2 female suicide bombers killed at least 45 people in a Madagali market.