

# Textile Installation on Afghanistan

in the context of  
**The Human Cost of War Exhibition**

The central feature of the installation uses textiles made by women from Afghanistan and incorporated in a piece by class 6c from the Hauptschule Kiderlinstraße, Germany, completed under the guidance of textile artist Heidi Drahota.



In association with Derry City Council Heritage and Museum Service's exhibition **The Human Cost of War**, the Verbal Arts Centre is hosting this installation on Afghanistan, curated by Roberta Bacic.

The beginning of the textile project on exhibition starts with the visit of the class to the exhibition **Threads of Destiny** exhibited at the Women's Museum in Fürth, Germany, in September 2009.

This was followed by buying small squares stitched by Afghani girls which were then enhanced, sewn and decorated by each of the participants according to their own taste and capacities using their own fabrics.

Once the students had finished their pieces, Heidi turned all the pieces into the quilt that is here on exhibit. It is 2.00 meters wide by 1.55 meters high.

Finally, after having researched about Afghanistan and the village of Laghmani, where the original embroideries were made by women, the pupils presented their work and displayed the quilt at the New Year's reception in their school.

For more information on quilt and arpillera exhibitions at the Verbal Arts Centre and other venues since February 2008 please visit the digital archive on [www.cain.ulst.ac.uk/quilts](http://www.cain.ulst.ac.uk/quilts) and [http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/quilts/exhibit/vac\\_quilts.html](http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/quilts/exhibit/vac_quilts.html)