On September 21st, USIP celebrated International Peace Day by hosting a morning of theatre in the park with our local partners in Kabul, Afghanistan.

We asked nine guests: What does peace mean to you?

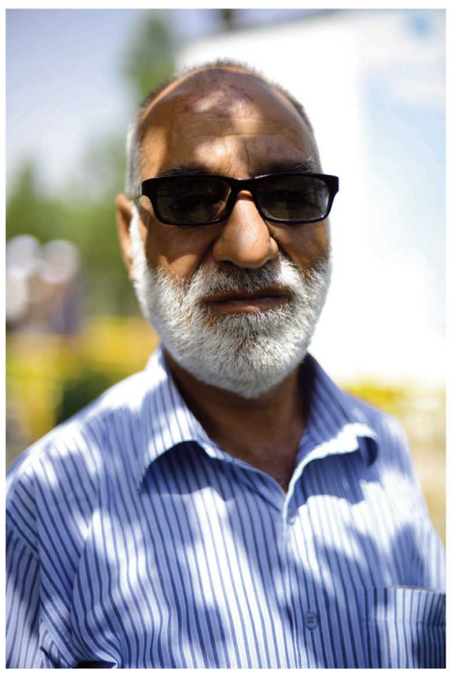
Without Peace our country cannot improve. Without peace we go backward.. [Shoaib, employee at Ministry of Narcotics]

Peace means freedom. Peace means particpation of women in all aspects of social life. Peace means decision-making power for all. [Mina Fazli, National Union of Afghanistan Workers and Employees]

If we bring peace, we can bring education to the entire country. Peace means that we can exchange our opinions and ideas with each other. [Hamida, student]

Peace is a holy name. The dove is the symbol of peace because it is independent, flying anywhere it wants. Humans need to be like the dove. Peace, to me, is freedom. [Ahmed Zakria, student]

We need peace so the government can grow. [Sergeant Nasima, Afghanistan National Police]



Today we are celebrating peace inside this walled garden, but it should be celebrated everywhere. Peace means not hearing gunfire and not being surrounded by police. [Engineer Mohammed Ashraf Wahab, Afghanistan Women's Services and Education]

Brotherhood. [Ahmat Khan, Radio Arman]

Peace is independence. Peace starts in the home. [Gulsoom Safazai, Director of Afghanistan Women's Services and Education]

The elders can't bring peace in this country. Everyone says the young generation is for the future. I say the young generation is for today. I say the young generation are the ones who can bring peace in Afghanistan. We are the ones who can look beyond the stereotypes. [Ziba, student]