

## **March 8 Statement from the Mesopotamia Women Journalists Platform**

**"Resistance makes women beautiful, changes the world, and it's up to us to convey this moment"**

"In this past year, we tried to show the resistance and reveal the truth, just as women did not remain silent against the power and the male world, and the male press, which is disturbed by women's laughter, shuts them in their homes, sees them as marginal if they speak, and 'disgraceful' if they remain silent. From Argentina to India, from Izmir to Batman, women almost tried to be there in 2020, when their burdens increased, their rights were discussed, and deaths were legitimized.

In this past year, we tried to show the resistance and reveal the truth just as women did not remain silent in the face of the political power and male dominated world that is bothered by the laughter of women, that confines the women home, that considers women unchaste if they hush and marginal if they speak. We, as the women journalists, tried to be everywhere where women are from Argentina to India, from İzmir to Batman in 2020 where deaths were legitimized by the pandemic that increased the burden of the women.

And we held our cameras towards the mother, beaten in Batman, towards İpek, Emine, Me-lek, Berjin, Asya and the many women we can't name right now, not towards those who say 'She would speak up if she weren't unchaste. Knowing that March 8 is a date of rebellion and anger, we say to the women that take to the streets on every March 8, turning the streets to rainbows that we are here, we are together.

We know that no women's story will be left unfinished and a woman can change anything if she wants to. We have witnessed it over and over again and we wrote about it. Resistance makes the women more beautiful, changes the world and we have the responsibility to convey her story. As the Mesopotamia Women Journalists Platform, while commemorating all the women we lost on March 8, we repeat that their dreams are our dreams, that none of us are alone, we salute the women who fight against darkness with all their light and faith. With the strength and courage we get from the women who say 'We were there, we are here and we will be here', and despite the violence that amounts to gendercide, we journalists say that 'We are here, we are together' for the March 8 we welcomed.