Village Takes On The Global Heroin Trade: A Tale of Courage, Resilience, and Triumph



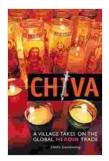
The Village of al-Ablah, Afghanistan

The village of al-Ablah is a small, remote community located in the mountains of eastern Afghanistan. For years, the village has been plagued by the drug trade, with many of its residents addicted to heroin and other drugs.

Chiva: A Village Takes on the Global Heroin Trade

by Chellis Glendinning

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In 2009, a group of villagers decided to take a stand against the drug trade. They formed a community anti-drug committee and began to work to eradicate poppy cultivation in their village.

The committee's work was not easy. They faced threats and intimidation from drug traffickers, and many of their crops were destroyed. But they refused to give up.

In 2012, the committee's efforts paid off. Al-Ablah became the first village in Afghanistan to be declared poppy-free.

The committee's success is a testament to the courage and resilience of the people of al-Ablah. It is also a model for other communities around the world that are struggling to overcome the drug trade.

The Impact of the Drug Trade on Al-Ablah

The drug trade has had a devastating impact on the village of al-Ablah. Many of the village's residents have become addicted to heroin, and the drug has destroyed families and communities. The drug trade has also led to an increase in crime and violence in the village. Drug traffickers often use violence to intimidate villagers and to protect their profits.

The drug trade has also had a negative impact on the local economy. The cultivation of poppies has led to the destruction of farmland, and the drug trade has made it difficult for villagers to find legitimate work.

The Community Anti-Drug Committee

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The Committee's Strategy

The community anti-drug committee used a variety of strategies to eradicate poppy cultivation in al-Ablah. These strategies included: * Education: The committee educated villagers about the dangers of drug addiction and the negative impact of the drug trade on the community. * Crop substitution: The committee provided farmers with alternative crops to grow, such as wheat and vegetables. * Economic development: The committee helped to create jobs and income-generating opportunities for villagers, so that they would not have to rely on the drug trade for their livelihood.

The committee's strategy was successful because it addressed the root causes of the drug trade in al-Ablah. By educating villagers about the dangers of drugs, providing them with alternative livelihoods, and creating a sense of community, the committee was able to help the village overcome the drug trade.

The Impact of the Committee's Work

The community anti-drug committee's work has had a significant impact on the village of al-Ablah. The village is now poppy-free, and the drug trade has been eliminated.

The committee's work has also led to a decrease in crime and violence in the village. Drug traffickers no longer have a presence in al-Ablah, and the village is now a safer place to live.

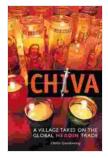
The committee's work has also had a positive impact on the local economy. The cultivation of poppies has been replaced by the cultivation of legitimate crops, and the village is now more prosperous than ever before.

The community anti-drug committee's work is a model for other communities around the world that are struggling to overcome the drug

trade. The committee's success shows that it is possible to defeat the drug trade, even in the most challenging of circumstances.

The village of al-Ablah is a shining example of how one community can take on the global heroin trade and win. The community anti-drug committee's work has transformed the village, making it a safer and more prosperous place to live.

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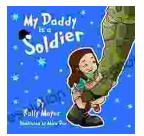


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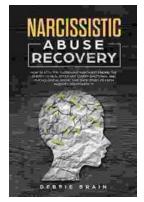
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