



Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan

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APPEAL

**to World Nations, Head of States, Parliaments and International Organizations
by the Religious Leaders of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

For more than 10 years we, heads of the three creeds in Azerbaijan have addressed to the international community on the eve of 26 February. We consider that there can be no nation, religion or person of common sense that could deny moral values common to all mankind or justify non-humanist acts such as violence, murder, aggression and gory crimes.

Humankind has always condemned the acts of the murderers who lost their humaneness and detested crimes against humanity. Nevertheless, it must be noted with regret that Khojaly tragedy which stands align with such massacres as Khatin and Lidise has not yet been blamed, and this act of genocide has neither been condemned by the international community nor been politically assessed.

We would like to reiterate to the world community that 13 years ago on 26 February more than thousands of peaceful, unarmed, unprotected residents of Khojaly were attacked by Armenian aggressors, hundreds of people were killed with no mercy to women, elderly and children.

Twenty percent of the territories of Azerbaijan are still under occupation of Armenian aggressors who are inspired by impunity and trying to break cease-fire. It is enough to remind that Azerbaijan is the only country in the world where one-eighth of its population is a refugee. This fully describes the tragedy of the Azerbaijani people. One million people were expelled from homelands, while their properties were ravaged, the mosques, cemeteries and historical-cultural monuments were destroyed, and historical documents were appropriated by Armenians. This can be named only as genocide and the world community must admit it.

Now Armenian aggressors are implementing a new provocation. They are trying to carry out archeological excavations in the ancient Azerbaijani town Shusha. There is no doubt that Armenians are able to find forged "evidences" not only in Shusha, but in any part of the world. Thus, the world community must be on the alert, mistrust Armenian propaganda and know the reality.

We are very pleased by the fact the realities concerning Azerbaijan are discussed in the parliaments of the USA and Turkey. We hope that this positive trend will extend in the future to reveal the real face of the militant Armenia, and will contribute to its recognition as a country that commits genocide and occupies the territories of its neighbor.

In the other words, the world must choose now - either to support bloody massacre, genocide, ill mind-set and hatred by remaining indifferent to horrible crimes committed by Armenia, or to express solidarity with Azerbaijan which is the victim of the aggression by Armenia and suffers from disinformation by the Armenian lobby in the world.

We call the whole international community not to be indifferent to the tragedy of Azerbaijanis, to assess the Khojaly tragedy as genocide, support and countenance us in the solution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Let God help you to distinguish the truth from false. God bless you. AMEN!

Sheyxulislam Allahshukur PASHAZADE, The Head of Caucasus Muslims
ALEXANDR, Episcopo of Baku and Caspian Region Russian Orthodox Church
Semyon IHIILOV, The Head of the Mountainous Jews