

## **Press Release**

## **HAZARA LIVES MATTER**

The recent murders of the eleven coal miners have wrought havoc among the Hazara population in Pakistan. For over 22 years the Hazara population in Pakistan, estimated between 650,000 to 900,000, has been targeted by various terrorist groups. Up to now not even one terrorist has been caught or prosecuted though thousands have been killed during terrorist attacks and despite the great strides in technology. The Pakistani government should be responsible in finding and punishing the criminals.

Prior to the 1892 genocide that killed over 62% of the Hazara population, Hazaras had constituted the majority of over half of Afghanistan's population and ever since as a minority is being continuously persecuted by the Afghan government and terrorist groups. Many had to flee Afghanistan to neighboring Iran or Pakistan.

The Hazaras in Pakistan are first and second generation naturalized and native-born citizens, they have volunteered in the army, have families and are fully integrated citizens of Pakistan. The Pakistani government must be equally responsible towards all their citizens.

The Hazaras due to war and persecution and marginalization have had to scatter all over the world. We want the Hazaras living in Pakistan to be aware the European-Global Civil Society Organization is united and attentive to you and in your pain as well. From our respective countries we will not rest in requesting our rights be met for our protection as all of Pakistan's citizens equally without discrimination.

It is fortunate that we are immediately informed through social media on all your matters, allowing us to voice together and with the means at our disposal enabling for dignified, equal and safe lives. We strive to stop the Hazara genocide and call on the Pakistani government to undertake the support of the widows and families of the deceased coal miners.

We request the Prime Minister of Pakistan to unite his voice with the Hazara Community in Pakistan enabling them to live in dignity.

06/01/2021







