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Demand of Hazara Worldwide Protest Against Widespread Arrests of Young Women and Girls and the Systematic Targeting of the Hazara Community in Afghanistan

Following the United Nations Security Council's Resolution 2721 (2023), which highlighted the ongoing challenges faced by women and religious and minority groups and reaffirmed the indispensable role of women in upholding human rights, particularly those of women and minorities in Afghanistan, the Taliban initiated an unprecedented suppression campaign against women. This campaign particularly targeted Hazara women through arbitrarily torture, detention, and arrest. The recent suppression, in addition to the previous barriers and limitations placed on women by the Taliban, resulted in the denial of fundamental human rights, including the rights to education, work and public participation.

However, instead of constructive engagement, the Taliban regime has launched a new round of suppressive actions against women. They have in particular targeted Hazara women and girls in the west and north of Kabul and other Hazara-majority provinces with arbitrary arrests and detentions, often justified under the pretext of 'improper hijab'. Moreover, since their return to power, the Taliban have pursued a systematic campaign of forced displacements, land confiscations and other tactics aimed at dispossessing and disempowering the Hazaras in Afghanistan.

In addition to the recent suppression of Hazara women, a new wave of systematic attacks was reignited against the Hazaras in Kabul and the provinces. It has only intensified following the UN Security Council's resolution. These attacks are part of a broader genocidal campaign targeting the Hazara community in various public spaces, including public transportation, shopping malls, sport clubs, mosques, hospitals, schools, and education centers, both under the former Republic and since the Taliban's forceful return to power.

The Hazara community has endured prolonged, relentless, systematic violence based on their ethnicity and religious beliefs since 1890. Over 62% of Hazaras were massacred and their lands and properties were confiscated by Amir Abdul Rahman from 1890 to 1893. In 1998, the Taliban committed a massacre of the Hazara community in Mazar-e Sharif. Over the past two decades the Hazara community has faced a wide range of systematic and targeted attacks on hospitals, schools, educational centers, mosques, public transportation, and peaceful demonstrations. With the return of the Taliban to power the Hazara community has faced unprecedented systematic attacks. These targeted killings, suppression, forced displacement and economic pressures fulfil the elements described in Article II of the Genocide Convention of 1948. The US organization Genocide Watch confirms, though it reports, that the Hazara people are experiencing genocide in Afghanistan.

The Hazara people have been the main targets of persecution by the Taliban and other extremist groups. Recent attacks on public transportation, shopping malls and sports clubs in



West Kabul serve as distressing examples. However, in recent weeks, Hazara women have become one of the main targets of persecution and torture across Afghanistan.

The UNCHR Special Representative, UNAMA, and other human rights organizations, in their reports repeatedly expressed concern about the dire situation of Hazaras and women in Afghanistan.

In light of the aforementioned facts and circumstances, we demonstrators worldwide urgently call upon the United Nations Security Council, UN Human Rights Council, world leaders, and human rights organizations to stand with us in solidarity with the Hazaras and women of Afghanistan.

- We urge the UNSC to take immediate measures to hold the Taliban accountable and to cease arbitrary harassment, detention, and arrest of women under any pretext, particularly the Hazara women in Afghanistan.
- We appeal to UNSC and world leaders to protect the Hazara community from further suffering and prevent their ongoing genocide.
- We call on the international community to compel the Taliban to revoke all barriers and restrictions on women and girls including limitations on education and work.
- We request the UNGA and UN Human Rights Council to recognize the Hazara Genocide and Women's Apartheid in Afghanistan.
- We call on the International Community, including neighboring and regional countries, to use their influence for the establishment of an inclusive legal-based government in Afghanistan.

The global demonstrations took place in 30 cities outside of Afghanistan with several Afghan women's groups in Pakistan and Iran recording videos of their participation. We anticipate your immediate actions in stopping the genocide of the Hazaras in Afghanistan and so that women can claim their right to equal rights between men and women.





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