



Güney Azərbaycan Milli Oyanış Hərəkatı (GAMOH)

January 24, 2017

Dear Mr. President,

We would like to formally congratulate you on becoming the 45th President of the United States of America.

The South Azerbaijan National Awakening Movement (SANAM) is a peaceful human rights movement and organization established in 1995. It is the first and the main South Azerbaijani human rights organization formed within the borders of Iran after the Revolution of 1979 and it aims to raise awareness to the injustices inflicted on the ethnic Azerbaijani Turks by the hands of the current regime in Tehran. Our organization solely uses peaceful and Gandhian methods to achieve its goals. S. Azerbaijanis make up about 35 million of the Iranian population which makes them the most populous ethnicity in the country. They are, however, denied their most basic human rights such as the right to education in mother tongue, let alone the right to self determination. SANAM recognizes the challenges in our region and is determined to help spread democracy for all, including other ethnic and sectarian minorities living in Iran.

The current chauvinist Iranian Regime aims to negatively assimilate all non-Persian ethnicities living in Iran, even if this means they will be subjected to mass human rights abuses which are clearly in violation of the declarations it has signed regarding the protection of universal human rights under the UN conventions. Many peaceful S. Azerbaijani activists have been arrested, imprisoned, and tortured due to their peaceful protest of the discriminatory and racist policies of this regime. They have often gone on hunger strikes to have their voices heard.

SANAM knows that the U.S and its President are fervent supporters of democracy not just within the states, but also abroad. This is why we ask that you consider the human rights violations in Iran when it comes to the bilateral relations. Azerbaijani Turks throughout history have supported democracy for all and this legacy will be passed on to the next generations.

South Azerbaijan National Awakening Movement (SANAM)

Yours Sincerely
The Honorable Donald J Trump,
President of the United State of America