



Southern Azerbaijan National Awakening Movement (SANAM)

Güney Azərbaycan Milli Oyanış Hərəkatı (GAMOH)

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Excellency,

The Iranian regime has been particularly harsh and violent in quashing an uprising which took place in the Southwestern part of the country known as Khuzestan. Recent reports claim that there are tens of wounded and a number of civilians killed in clashes between the local population and the Iranian security forces. This all started from what was initially a peaceful demonstration by the ethnic Arab minority of the Al-Ahvaz region.

For years the local population of the Al-Ahvaz region has been deprived of access to natural resources such as clean water and natural gas as the regime in Tehran has systematically exploited this mineral-rich area and left the local population in poverty and despair. All of this has been topped off with sand storms in the past several years making the daily lives of the local population incredibly hard to manage both financially and socially.

The Ahvazi people have peacefully protested these injustices over the past week by gathering demonstrations in front of the governor's site, but they were confronted with enormous violence and repression at the hands of the Iranian security forces.

The South Azerbaijan National Awakening Movement (SANAM) asks that the United Nations pays closer attention to this matter as the Ahvazi people continue to struggle daily under the oppression of the Iranian regime.

**Sincerely,
SANAM – GAMOH**

**Mr. Antonio Guterres
Secretary General of the United Nations**