

## Targeted Killing of Hazaras in Afghanistan

Date: June 08, 2021

Dear Embassy of the Russian Federation in Afghanistan,

Following the resolution adopted at the 2005 UN World Summit regarding international community's Responsibility to Protect (also known as R2P) populations from genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing, we bring to your attention the increased targeted killing of Hazaras in Afghanistan.

Here we are writing

- to draw your attention to the large-scale targeted killing of Hazaras in Afghanistan. The intentional destruction of Hazara lives and serious bodily and mental harms caused to members of the Hazara ethnic group have continued for centuries. However, following the mass targeted killing of Hazaras during the Taliban regime, the trend has intensified in recent years. Only since 2015, more than 15 accounts of mass targeted killing of Hazaras have been documented. The destruction of Hazara lives and culture is not a mere side effect of war in Afghanistan; these killings are targeted against a specific ethnic and religious group. These killings target new-borns of Hazaras in hospitals, schoolgirls in schools in Hazara populated areas, Hazara travellers on national highways, training centres and cultural events in Hazara populated areas, and Hazara workers all over the country. These targeted killings are also accompanied by efforts to inflict such conditions on the Hazara ethnic group calculated to bring about physical destruction. The destruction of physical and cultural evidence of Hazaras indicate signs of genocide in Afghanistan.
- to request that the Russian Federation recognize the threats against and the genocide of Hazaras in Afghanistan. We kindly request that the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Afghanistan release a statement in recognition of targeted killing of Hazaras, threats against Hazaras, and the wider Human Rights violations.

We thank you and hope that you recognize the mass killing of and the threats against the Hazaras in Afghanistan and consider releasing a statement on this.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,