



Ünvan: Azərbaycan, Bakı, Şərifzadə 1, Ayna; Tel/Faks +47-99399225; Email: dunazhak@hotmail.com
Address: Ayna, Sherifzade 1, Baki, Azerbaijan; Tel/Fax +47-99399225; Email: dunazhak@hotmail.com

No.: 383/ 2006
Date: 18 September 2006

Mrs. Harrison, Amnesty International, London
CC The Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva,
Please circulate this letter to Independent Expert on Minority Issues

Published in the various mass media

Dear Mrs. Harrison,

Re OUR BASIC RIGHT FOR EDUCATION IN MOTHER TONGUE

Further to our complaint to the UN Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (see our letter Ref. 372/2006 on 28 September 2006), we wish to bring to your attention a letter recently issued by the Association of (Southern) Azerbaijani Academics (AzBilTop) and also another letter by the Southern Azerbaijani Student Movement, who wish to have their appeal reached to organisations such as yours. Both of these letters are related to the campaign of the Turkic Southern Azerbaijan for reinstating our basic right of education in our mother tongue, Azerbaijani Turkic through the planned campaign of civil disobedience and protests on the commencement of the new academic year on 23 September 2006.

We have also written to you regarding our detected repression against the planned campaigns (Ref: 381/2006 on 16 September 2006). We take the opportunity to explain this further. The nation of Southern Azerbaijan has re-emerged from the ashes of our history, mature and resolute. The authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran are seemingly paralysed with an illusive past grandeur and therefore deem it justified to spearhead their racist policies. And the issue is how to safeguard human rights of the Turkic Southern Azerbaijan.

Our nation is indebted to your proactive support on the occasion of the Babek Assembly of June 2006 for safeguarding our human rights. We cannot imagine how the events would have rolled out without the penetrating impact of your General Statement and definitely it saved many lives. Once again, we look to you for our protection and therefore we appeal for your proactive support. We are confident that you are monitoring the situation, regarding the matter with its utmost importance, and will act in a timely manner for safeguarding our human rights. We thank you in advance.

Yours sincerely,

Boyuk Resuloglu

For and on behalf of
The Committee for the Defence of the Rights of World Azerbaijanis



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The first year book in our mother tongue



Education in our mother tongue



Liberated women study in mother tongue



The Tebriz University founded in



The business was able to use Azerbaijani Turkic



The invading Iranian Army acted with vengeance
and burned our books in our language

Pictures from the period of our popularly elected **national government (1945-46)**,
illustrating the official status of Azerbaijani Turkic
Southern Azerbaijanis have a nostalgia to this golden age of our recent history



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Source: <http://www.azadtribun.net/738.htm>



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No	The Translations
D O C U M E N T 1	Translated Document 1 – http://www.azbiltop-gis.blogfa.com/ issued on 11 September 2006
	<p style="text-align: center;">THE STATEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF (SOUTHERN) AZERBAIJANI ACADEMICS (AzBilTop) IN THE FORM OF THE STRATEGY FOR CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE – NOT ATTENDING CLASSROOMS ON THE COMMENCEMENT DAY OF THE NEW ACADEMIC YEARS</p> <p>Whilst we are fast approaching the commencement of schools, universities and teaching institutions, regrettably we are once again witnessing the longstanding wishes of non-Persian nations and the ethnic groups, the wish to educate in our mother tongue.</p> <p>Our children, teenagers, and youth and by the same token all non-Persian nations and ethnic groups will enter the new academic year out of all innocence to acquire science, knowledge, and free themselves from ignorance. In spite of ascending to high scientific levels, they are in ignorance of their mother tongue, identity and history, in other words they are a victim of ignoring own nationhood and ethnic endeavours, a victim of cultural apartheid, and intoxicated by chauvinist mindset and policies.</p> <p>Southern Azerbaijani and all Turkic children together with all their fellows are preparing under such a condition that all the promises for education in mother tongue and the provision for appropriate facilities by the authorities and by members of parliament have turned out to be empty promises. The authorities must stop implicating the problem of education in mother tongue with such infantile excuses of pan-Turkism, pan-Arabism, undermining national security, where in the latter case they fail to specify that the undermined security concerns a peculiar ethnic group. The authorities must come to terms with their policies clearly violating universal resolutions and conventions related to the solution for this problem of education in mother tongue, in particular those related to human rights and language rights. Even the implementation of appropriate provisions within the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran has been neglected.</p> <p>We appeal to knowledgeable and conscientious souls and ask that what can we do in these situations? Should we not raise our voice of protest?</p> <p>Under the situation that we are in, we have considered all the directions of actions and in particular the sensitivity to the conditions within the country and the whole regions of Southern Azerbaijan. We are arrived to the conclusion that it is necessary to carry on our struggle in the form of civil disobedience. Thus, refusing to attend the classrooms on the first day of the new academic year is the most convenient and peaceful approach. Let us hope that this method of struggle by the children of the nations and ethnic groups including intellectuals and conscientious souls as well as those fair-minded individuals holding power will lead to the change of heart and mind of the authorities and change of policies to provide all the appropriate means for education in our mother tongue</p> <p>We hope that the authorities and the members of parliament of Southern Azerbaijan will take the necessary steps towards the realisation of their promises in reinstating the official status of the Azerbaijani Turkic language and founding the appropriate institutions towards the full realisation of the potentials of Azerbaijani Turkic. We hope that they will undertake their duties towards the nation of Azerbaijan.</p> <p>The Association of Southern Azerbaijani Academics appeals to all the strata of the nation of Azerbaijan, in</p>



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T R A N S L A T E D D O C U M E N T 2	<p>Document No 2: http://www.azadtribun.net/x1368.htm The Appeal of the Southern Azerbaijani Students Movement (SASM) for an international support – issued on 12 September 2006</p> <p>The Southern Azerbaijani Student Movement (SASM) is preparing for the protest</p> <p>The new academic year in Southern Azerbaijan will commence on 23 September 2006. After the repression of the mass protests orchestrated throughout Southern Azerbaijan in response to the crisis created by the insulting caricature, the student of Southern Azerbaijan are expected to orchestrate another massive protest aiming to secure our education in our mother tongue. In relation to this protest, the SASM calls upon all of our people and students to take part in the protest resolutely conducted in a civil and peaceful manner. The SASM requests all the parents to contribute to this protest by not sending their children to schools and universities but by participating in the protests directly.</p> <p>The Protest of Turkic student in the University of Tehran (holding placards displaying “schooling in mother tongue” and “my heart cries that I am a Turk”</p> <p>It is regrettable that the 15 years of campaign by Southern Azerbaijani students in the form of a host of demands and petitions have been in vain by the racist government of Iran, with even harsh reactions. Not only they have not recognised the rights of Southern Azerbaijanis to study in our own language, on the contrary they have even have shut down student publications in Azerbaijani Turkic and detained a considerable number of our students.</p> <p>Currently the nation of Southern Azerbaijan is aware of our own potentials. Even though the orchestrated mass protest of a million of people in 25 cities in May 2006 reverberated worldwide, the Iranian government resorted to disinformation, murdered peaceful demonstrators or wounded them and detained them in 1000s. The Iranian government has not learned any lessons from this ongoing struggle and are therefore making us more determined towards our national struggle.</p> <p>In this situation we, the SASM, appeal to world intellectuals, civilised organisations and international organisations and seek your support for our blessed struggle in safeguarding our right to education in our mother tongue. Conversely, we appeal to mass media worldwide including radio, television, news agents and newspapers to be prepared for the coverage of our protests.</p> <p>THE FUTURE IS OURS</p> <p>The SOUTHERN AZERBAIJANI STUDENT MOVEMENT</p> <p>Southern Azerbaijan 12 September 2006</p>



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Güney Azərbaycan Öyrenci Herekatı böyük mitinge hazırlanır

Mehr ayının biri (23.09.2006) Güney Azərbaycanda yeni öyretim ilinin başlanış günüdür. Güney Azərbaycan'da Böcek Karikatörü Krizinde keçirilmiş qanlı mitinglerden sonra ilk defə olaraq G.Azərbaycan öyrencileri öz Ana Dillərində təhsil alma haqqını əldə etmək əmacı ilə böyük bir mitingə əl vurmaları gözənilməkdədir. Mitinglə ilgili Güney Azərbaycan Öyrenci Herekatı bildiriələr yayaraq bütün öyrencilər və xalqımızı keçiriləcək bu mədəni və dinc mitingdə iştirak etməyə çağırır. Güney Azərbaycan Öyrenci Herekatı valideyinlərdən istəyibki bu günü etiraz simgesi olaraq uşaqlarını oxullar və universitetlərə göndərməyib mitinglərə qatılsınlar.

Tehran Üniversitesi Türk Öyrencilerinin dinc mitingi (Ellərində Ana Dillərində Medresə və Haray Haraymen Türkəm sloganları)

Çox təssüfki bu günə qədər İran ırqçı dövləti G.Azərbaycan öyrencilərinin 15 ildən bəri dinc və mədəni isteklərini cavabsız qoyaraq tüm imzalanmış PETİŞİN-lərə qarşı sərət yanaşmışdır. G.Azərbaycan öyrencilərinə Ana Dillərində təhsil alma imkanı verilməmiş əks olaraq Azərbaycan Türkçəsində yayınlanan öyrencisəl dərgilər qapanmış və öyrencilərdən bir çoxu tutuqlanmışdır.

Hal hazırda G.Azərbaycan xalqı öz milli çıxarlarını tanıyaraq, onları mənimsəməyə başlamışdır. Bir milyona yaxın Güneylilərin 25 şəhərdə keçirdiği May ayındakı mitinglər dünya çapında səslənsədə belə İran dövləti onların xəberlərini sansor edib yüzlərcə dinc insanı küçələrdə şəhid və ya yaralamışdır və minlərcəsini isə dustağa atmışdır. İran dövləti bu möhtəşəm göstərilərdən dər əlməyib və xalqımızı milli mücadilə yolunda daha artıq ciddiləşdirmişdir.

Böylə bir durumda Güney Azərbaycan Öyrenciləri dünya aydınları, sivil örgütlər və uluslar arası təşkilatlara üz tutaraq öyrencilərin Ana Dillərində təhsil etmə haqqını qazanma yolunda tuttuqları qutsal mübarizədə yardım etməyə çağırır. Eyni zamanda Güney Azərbaycan Öyrenciləri dünya çapında olan sərbəst Radio-Tv ləri və həmçinin xəber ajansları və qazetə müxbirilərini G.Azərbaycan'da keçiriləcək mitinglərdən raportaj hazırlamağa dəvət edir.

GELECEK BİZİMDİR

GÜNEY AZERBAIJAN ÖYRENCİ HEREKATI
GÜNEY AZERBAIJAN
12.09.2006