



د افغانستان اسلامي امارت  
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Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

امارت اسلامي افغانستان  
وزارت امور خارجه

رياست حقوق بشر و امور بين المللي زنان

**Directorate General of Human Rights and Women's International Affairs**

### Unofficial translation

#### **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA) response to the questions of the United Nations Special Procedures regarding the attack on Kaaj Educational Center**

- IEA strongly condemned the attack on Kaaj Training Center in the 13th district of Kabul, calling it a heinous act. Along with sharing grief and sorrow with the victims' families, IEA also promised to identify the perpetrators of the attack and punish them for their heinous act.
- ISIS is a brutal and bloodthirsty enemy that does not make any distinction in targeting and killing Sunnis, Shias, civilians, soldiers, youth, elderly, women, and children. Whenever possible, they don't miss any opportunity to attack innocent people. However, the history of such attacks has shown there is always a possibility for a second attack following the first, especially when journalists are trying to cover the incident, for example, in Kunduz province. After ISIS attacked the Imam Sahib district, another attacker planted explosives in a pressure cooker, who was identified and caught as he entered the hospital. Therefore, to protect civilians and journalists and prevent further casualties, the area is covered until it is ensured that the threat is over and there is no possibility of another attack.

On the other hand, the victims need the full attention of medical personnel, which requires a calm environment. In the first hours after the incident, based on medical principles, no one is allowed to enter the hospital so that medical personnel can provide the required medical services, in a calm environment, to save the injured. In most cases, family members of the wounded obstruct the provision of these essential medical services and make it hard for the doctors to operate effectively, which is understandable but not practical. International hospitals in Afghanistan, such as the Emergency Hospital, do not allow anyone, whatever their rank or status may be, to enter the hospital until several days after the incident. This is done primarily to save the lives of the injured and to comply with standard international medical principles and regulations. These principles have been adopted based on international norms, not set by the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan.

- Deputy Minister of Economy, Dr. Abdul Latif Nazari, a high level delegation of the Ministry of Interior led by the ministry's Chief of Staff, Major General Alhaj Maulawi Zainullah Aaber, and the Deputy Commander of Kabul Police Headquarters, Maulawi Ibrahim visited the families of the victims of Kaaj Educational Center and conveyed to them IEA's message of condolence and grief. While speaking to the families of the victims, they said that the enemy

has lost its capabilities on the battlefield; thus, it is now using these brutal and inhumane actions because they want to create distance among our nation. They mentioned unity among the Shias and Sunnis as the main reason for the defeat of our common enemy, requesting for people's further cooperation with the security forces to prevent similar incidents. During this visit, the Ministry of Interior gave cash amount (100 thousand Afghanis) to each of the families of martyrs and (50 thousand Afghanis) to each of the families of the injured.

- On October 21, 2022, IEA arrested two important members of the ISIS Khorasan group. Based on the information provided by the captured ISIS members, IEA discovered one of their hideouts in the 8<sup>th</sup> precinct of Kabul and conducted operation on it. During this operation, six ISIS members were killed, and a number of weapons and explosives were seized. However, an IEA soldier was also martyred in this operation. The ISIS terrorists killed in this operation were involved in the deadly attacks on Kaaj Educational Center and Wazir Muhammad Akbar Khan Mosque in Kabul city.
- To ensure the security of ethnic and religious minorities, especially in religious worship places, educational centers, and residential areas, the security forces have adopted new measures and are determined, with all their might, to prevent heart-wrenching incidents. One of such steps is allocating sufficient funds in the operative field to prevent irritant incidents. Also, security checkpoints have been increased in affected areas and intelligence forces have been deployed in the said areas. Discussions and consultations are being held with local inhabitants for their advice in ensuring their security. Police and intelligence forces are in contact with madrassas, mosques, and educational facilities in the cities and districts to establish the necessary coordination to improve security.
- Afghanistan is the home of all Afghans. All Afghans have equal rights in this country, including all ethnic groups and religious minorities, indiscriminately. On the other hand, the prevention of religious ceremonies of the minorities is in contradiction with the teachings of the holy religion of Islam and the Afghan culture. There are no restrictions for ethnic minorities by the Islamic Emirate. On the contrary, strict security measures have been taken to ensure a safe performance of their ceremonies. Suicide attacks on madrassas, schools, and other places of worship, for which ISIS has accepted responsibility, are not only targeting ethnic minorities but also members of the Islamic Emirate and other Islamic scholars, such as the martyrdom of Sheikh Rahimullah Haqqani and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Ansari, attack on Sunnis in Wazir Akbar Khan Mosque, attacks on Sufi places of worship in Kabul and Mazar-e-Sharif and the suicide attack on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 11 January 2023, in which Afghans belonging to all ethnicities and religions were martyred and injured. This project is being carried out to divide the Muslim Ummah. The Afghans are well aware of its evil intentions, and the Islamic Emirate has made good achievements in preventing such incidents and will not refrain from any effort to prevent and foil them.
- No one calls Shias a minority in Afghanistan, and people throughout the country respect them. They can travel without any restriction to all parts of the country. The Islamic Emirate is adopting strict security measures for their ceremonies, so much so that IEA has lost several soldiers who were defending them during ISIS attacks on their ceremonies. ISIS is the common enemy of Afghans. The attacks by ISIS are not only against Shias, but most of the victims are Sunnis, e.g. a few days prior to the Kaaj incident, the attack on Wazir Muhammad Akbar Khan Mosque in Kabul and several attacks in Kunduz, Herat, Nangarhar, and some other provinces, all targeted Sunnis. As a result of the efforts made by the IEA, ISIS does not have any operational base in Afghanistan. Shias are happy at home (Afghanistan) and don't have any problems. The problem is 10,000 kilometers away (abroad).

- **Note:** As mentioned, Afghanistan is the common home of all Afghans and as a responsible system, IEA considers itself obligated to protect the interests, lives, wealth, and honor of all Afghans without any distinction. We neither want nor will allow anyone to create division amongst us under the name of Pashtun, Tajik, Hazara, Uzbek, and other tribes.

We want the United Nations, claiming to be neutral, to see us as Afghans and assess our problems as common problems of all Afghans.

**END**