

The Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan

REPORT

on hate crimes and hate speech against Azerbaijanis

Part II

BAKU 2021

The report aims to bring to the attention of the world community the human rights violations caused by the long-standing ethnic hatred policy carried out by Armenia against Azerbaijanis inside and outside of Armenia and to call for drastic measures to prevent this hatred-based policy. Factual materials obtained by the Ombudsman, during her impartial investigation, as well as information received from reliable sources spread through social media and press have been used in the report.

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Introduction

In the modern world, societies have accepted the norms of peaceful coexistence, cultural pluralism, and the principles of mutual respect. Respect for these principles must be essential for each country to preserve peace and prosperity in society. But unfortunately, the longstanding hatred policy against Azerbaijanis pursued by the political leadership of Armenia created intolerance on ethnic and religious grounds among the Armenian population.

Despite the end of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, statements, photos, and videos, based on hateful rhetoric aimed at humiliating and insulting Azerbaijanis, are being constantly promoted in Armenian society. If we look at the Armenian sources, we can find lots of materials related to the "policy of Azerbaijanphobia" and "its priority" and, unfortunately, this policy is openly supported at the state level. Especially in the post-conflict period, when it is expected to restore good relations between the peoples to create conditions for sustainable peace in the region, we witness the statements of the political leadership of Armenia expressing intolerance and hatred towards Azerbaijanis on the ethnic and religious ground.

Hateful statements made by the Armenian political and military leadership against Azerbaijanis, the thoughts of revenge, create the basis for the re-ignition of the conflict and committing new crimes against peace and humanity. Guided by the principle of peaceful coexistence with neighboring countries and the development of regional cooperation, the Government of Azerbaijan puts forward specific proposals to reduce tensions in relations with Armenia, strengthen regional peace and expand the cooperation. However, ignoring these calls, Armenia continues its hatred propaganda against Azerbaijanis in various media resources and social networks.

I. Violation of International Humanitarian Law and human rights by the armed forces of Armenia during the war between Armenia and Azerbaijan from 27 September to 10 November 2020

Taking advantage of the political uncertainty in Azerbaijan after the collapse of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Armenian political and military leadership being not content with expelling Azerbaijanis from Armenia where they historically lived, occupied 20 percent of Azerbaijani lands.

The Report of the Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) of the Republic of Azerbaijan on "Hate crimes and hate speech against Azerbaijanis" dated May 4, 2021, provides detailed information about the genocide committed against Azerbaijanis during the First Karabakh War.¹

However, the facts of not only the killing and expelling of Azerbaijanis from their homes, but also the lifelong damage to the psychological and physical health of the civilian hostages during the occupation, were revealed.

According to the State Commission of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Prisoners of War, Hostages and Missing Persons as of 01.12.2020, 3890 people were registered as missing, of which only 872 have been reported so far.²

Testimonies and journalistic interviews given by the people captured and returned by the Armenian armed forces during the First Karabakh War reveal the existence of various crimes. Hundreds of Azerbaijanis became disabled for life due to the physical and psychological pressures during their captivity.^{3 4}

Here are some facts we know:

¹ <u>https://ombudsman.az/en/view/news/2494/ombudsman-sent-report-on-hate-crimes-and-hate-speech-against-azerbaijanis-to-international-organizations)</u>

² State Comission of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Prisoners of War, Hostages and Missing Persons (human.gov.az)

³ <u>http://supremecourt.gov.az/static/view/181</u>

⁴ Tortures over the captives in Nagorno Karabakh conflict | Karabakh.org

Aida Serobyan, an Armenian doctor who "controlled" the Azerbaijanis taken hostage during the occupation of Kalbajar district (April 2, 1993), injected Arzu Hajiyev born on March 31, 1993, with an unknown substance, leaving the child permanently disabled. Arzu Hajiyev died in 2003.

As one of the numerous facts of torture applied to prisoners of war, was that Murshudov Sadraddin Aslan oglu was forced to swallow broken glass after being beaten, etc.⁵

In addition, as a result of medical examinations carried out after the exchange of bodies between the parties, it was confirmed that torture and humiliation were carried out on dead bodies before and after the death. The following photo shows the situation in which Azerbaijanis were forced to leave their homes during the First Karabakh War (photo 1):



Photo 1. A group of Azerbaijanis who survived the Khojaly genocide (February 26, 1992) while arriving in the neighboring regions in snowy weather

⁵ <u>State Comission of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Prisoners of War, Hostages and Missing Persons (human.gov.az)</u>

These facts of hatred and intolerance against Azerbaijanis during the First Karabakh War can be seen in the orders given by the political and military leadership of Armenia during the Second Karabakh War and in the war crimes committed.

The report on the torture and pressure faced by Azerbaijani servicemen captured by the Armenian armed forces during the 44-day war was prepared by the Ombudsman Office of Azerbaijan and brought to the attention of the relevant international organizations.

Also, Ad Hoc report was prepared and sent to international human rights organizations based on the results of regular visits by the Ombudsman Office of Azerbaijan to the Armenian saboteurs detained by the Azerbaijani Armed Forces during the Second Karabakh War.⁶

During the liberation of the territories of Azerbaijan, the Azerbaijani Armed Forces did not target any civilian objects and population. During those fightings, the Armenian Armed Forces provided military uniforms and weapons to civilians, including journalists, clerics and even children, in an attempt to divert targets.⁷

In the photos below, Armenian clerics used their status to call people to war with weapons, on social media during the Second Karabakh War (photos 2;3).

⁶ <u>https://ombudsman.az/en/view/news/2519/ombudsman-once-again-conducted-ad-hoc-visit-concerning-the-members-of-the-armed-group-of-armenia-detained-in-azerbaijan</u>

⁷ <u>https://twitter.com/armenia/status/1310165919344320513?s=20</u>



Armenia = ② @armenia · Sep 27 Faith & Power! #StopAzerbaijaniAgression #StopAliyev #KarabakhNow #NKpeace #NKstrong #ArtsakhStrong #ርሀጊ @ԵԼՈՒԵՆ₽



Photo 2. The Twitter account of the Armenia page, which has about 92,000 followers



Photo 3. Armenian cleric with Armenian soldiers

II. Hatred, hostility and intolerance on ethnic and religious grounds against Azerbaijani's as a core of Armenia's policy

During the Armenian provocations in the direction of Tovuz district in July 2020, Azerbaijani students held peaceful actions in many countries to stop the military attacks of Armenia against civilian settlements of Azerbaijan. However, Armenian students, who were brought up in the spirit of intolerance towards Azerbaijanis and studied in the cities where the protests took place, created various confrontations during the peaceful protest of Azerbaijanis.

The peaceful protests turned into mass fights as a result of those provocations, and dozens of Azerbaijanis were beaten alone in those fights, including in the following days.

In addition, in "response" to the peaceful protests, citizens of Armenian descent disrupted public order in those countries by holding aggressive and noisy rallies. Thus, they attacked the areas inhabited by Azerbaijanis en masse and commited physical violence also put psychological pressure on them with various slogans.

In July and August 2020, dozens of Azerbaijanis were beaten and subjected to psychological pressure by students of Armenian descent in the United States, Britain, Russia, Ukraine, and Belgium.

The photo below belongs to Rizvan Aslanov, who was beaten by a group of instructed people of Armenian descent in Belgium. Although these people wanted to get insulting and degrading expressions from Rizvan Aslanov, he did not respond to these attempts. Rizvan Aslanov was beaten brutally as he didn't respond to these deliberately irritating actions (photo 4).

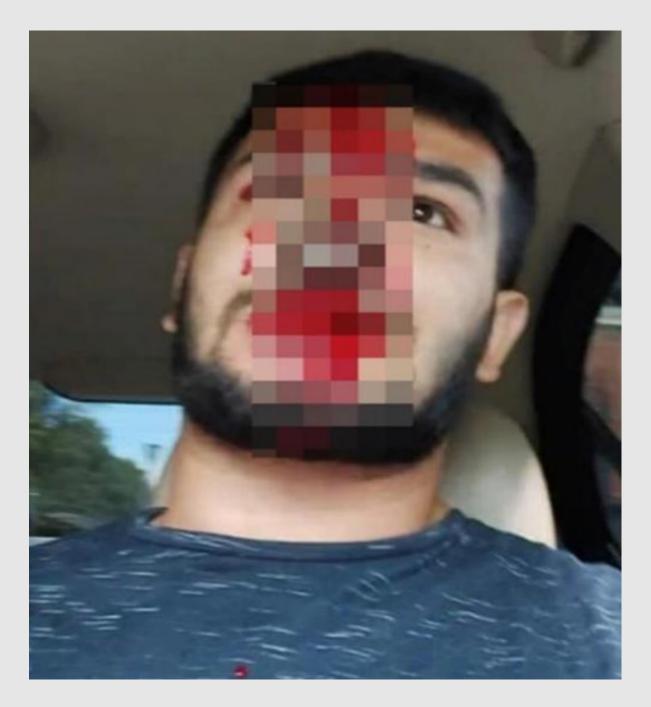


Photo 4. Rizvan Aslanov living in Belgium (after being beaten)

There is enough material on the harassment and even death threats against Azerbaijanis peacefully marching with only Azerbaijani flags. As seen in the photo below, civilians of Armenian descent are standing with guns against Azerbaijanis who march quietly with Azerbaijani flags (photo 5).

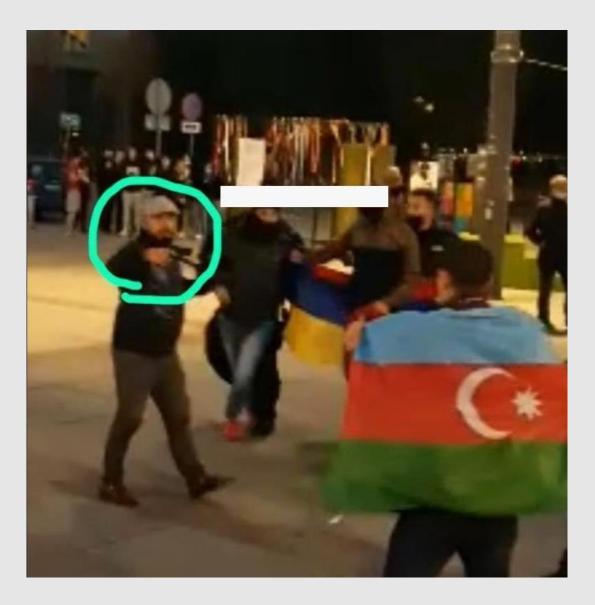


Photo 5. The armed threat of a civilian of Armenian origin against peacefully marching Azerbaijanis

There are facts of repeated mass attacks on Azerbaijani civilian objects by citizens of Russia of Armenian origin in many major cities of the Russian Federation, including Moscow, that were also shared on social networks. According to surveillance footage from a restaurant owned by the Russian citizens of Azerbaijani descent, citizens of Armenian origin aggressively attacked in order to damage the properties of Azerbaijanis, as well as their physical health (photo 6).



Photo 6. Surveillance camera image

We see groups of citizens of Armenian descent aggressively attacking Azerbaijanis protesting peacefully in the United States. Although the American police took action against these groups, it is clear from the photos that the clerics of Armenian origin interfered in the matter. In addition, the following photos show insulting actions against Azerbaijani servicemen killed during the Armenian provocation in the direction of Tovuz district in 2020, including the state flag (photos 7-11)⁸. We bring to your attention other photos of those clashes:

⁸ <u>https://youtu.be/I-ElrVLmhgM</u>



Photo 7



Photo 8

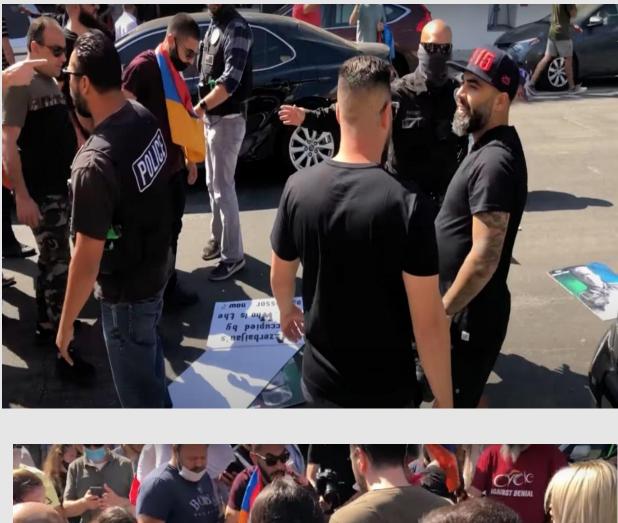


Photo 9.



Photo 10. The fact of insulting the Azerbaijani flag



Photo 10.1. The fact of insulting the Azerbaijani flag

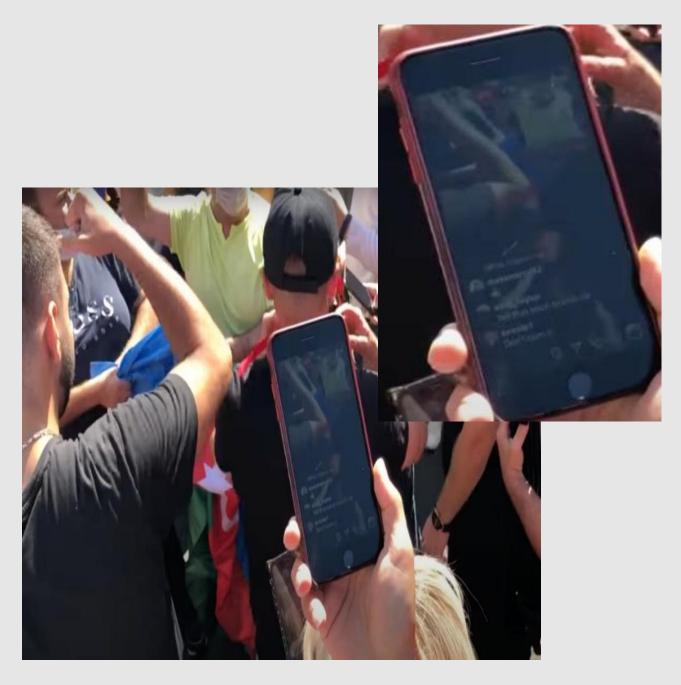


Photo 10.2. The fact of insulting the Azerbaijani flag. The images are shared live with other viewers via Instagram



Photo 11. The Armenian cleric interfering in the protests

The following photos show the results of the physical violence against Azerbaijani students during the peaceful protests:



Photo 12. Azerbaijani student



Photo 12.1.



Photo 12.2.

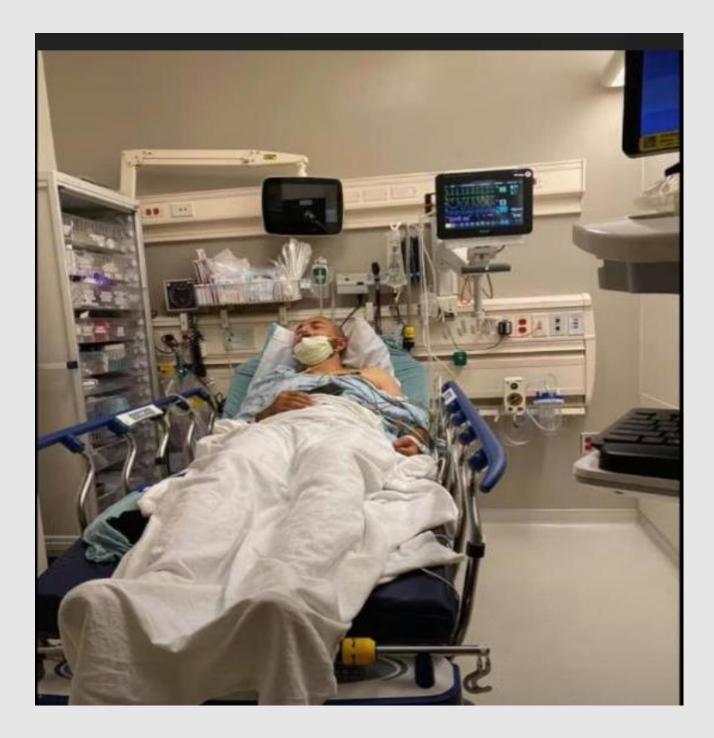


Photo 12.3.

II. Anti-Azerbaijani propaganda carried out by Armenians through the mass and social media

In the first report of the Azerbaijani Ombudsman on hate crimes and hate speech against Azerbaijanis, which was sent to the relevant international human rights organizations on May 4, 2021, it was extensively investigated the use of hate speech by individuals of Armenian descent and politicians against Azerbaijanis.

However, this report reflects flash mobs, challenges, and shares that damage the image of Azerbaijanis in the "top-trend" of the Armenian segment of social networks.

According to the photos and the links below, a flash mob "I ... I am Armenian. The Turk is my enemy" was held and widely disseminated^{9 10 11} (photo 13.1; 13.2; 13.3).

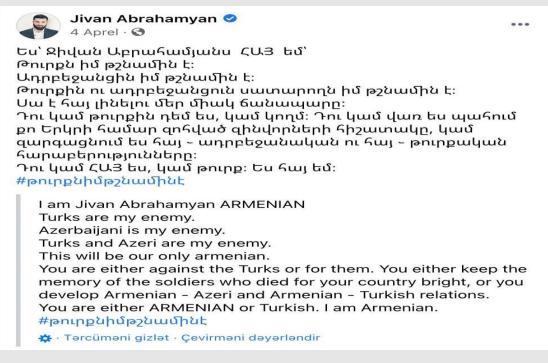


Photo13.1. Screenshot of the flash mob

⁹ <u>Facebook</u>

¹⁰ Facebook

¹¹ Facebook



Mkrtich Israyelyan 4 Aprel · 🔇

Թուրքը թշնամի է, իմ համար էդ չի քննարկվում միանշանակ։ Բայց կարելի է իմանալ, բացի թուրքից արդյոք ձեր համար թշնամի է նաեւ բանակից գողացողը, պատերազմի ժամանակ հրաման չկատարող բարձրաստիճանը, կամ երեխեքին կրակի տակ թողնող ու փախչող հրամանատարը, կաշառակերությամբ դոլարով միլիոնատեր դարձածը ու էսպես էլի լիքը մարդիկ։ Որովհետեւ զինվորը ռազմի դաշտում մահացել է ոչ միայն թշնամի թուրքի նաեւ էս կարգի թշնամի հայրենակիցների պատճառով։ Եթե բացի թուրքից իրենք էլ են թշնամի ձեր համար՝ ուրեմն Օk է էս ֆլեշմոբը 😏

Turks are an enemy, it is not discussed for me.

But you can know if the enemy is also an enemy for you besides the Turks, the high-ranking who does not command during the war, or the commander who leaves children under fire and escapes, the billionaire with bribe dollars and so many people. Because the soldier died not only in the battlefield Turkish is also because of this kind of enemy compatriots. If besides the Turks they are enemies to you, then Ok this flashmob 😏

🗱 · Tərcüməni gizlət · Çevirməni dəyərləndir

00 195

24 Rəy 21 Paylaşma

Photo13.2 Screenshot of the flash mob

...



Shushan Petrosyan

7 Aprel · 🕄

Հիմա Երկիր Մեդիա-ով տղերքին եմ նայում։ Ընկերներս են խոսում ,ովքեր կան ու ովքեր երկնքում են՝ «Շուշվա գումարտակ», «Կամավորական շարժում»… Նայում եմ, հեկեկում եմ, կռվում եմ …

Եղիա պապս Տիգրանակերտցի է, հրաշքով փրկվել է, թեև 7 եղբայրներով կորցրին իրար ու միայն տարիներ հետո մի եղբոր հետ Երևանում իրար գտան, Սարգիսը Եգիպտոսից եկավ, Ինքը՝ Եղիա պապս, Բեյրութից ու ասում են էլի Մանսուրյաններ կան ,որ պապիս եղբայրների ճյուղերն են... Աննա տատիկս Մարաշից է, ինձ մի օր պատմեց «... Մայրս, պստիկ քույրս կուրծքի երեխա, եղբայրս ու ես,երբ գերված հայերի խմբով շարքով կանցնեյինք Մարաշում փողոց մը, մայրս ցույց տվավ «հոս նայեք ու հիշեք, ձեր հայրիկին թուրքերը հոս այրեցին... գաղթի ճամփուն մայրս մեռավ, կուրծքի երեխա քույրս անոր հետ, ես և եղբայրս թաղեցինք

Բարդուղ պապս Էրզրումից է։

Բարդուղ պս ու գլխատել, մայրը խենթ թուրքի ձեռը թուրք սպան

սովորական, ողբերգական պատմություն է 30 արծաթի ու Հուդայի մասին։ Այս պատմության մեջ խնդիրը միշտ Հուդա գտնելն է, ավաղ, մեզ մոտ գտան!

Ուրեմն նզովվեք դուք բոլորդ, ով չարիքի կողքին եք ու նույն 30 արծաթով ձեզ է առնում նույն այդ Հուդան։

Աստծո առաջ պատասխան ունեք!!!

Իսկ թուրքը ...

թուր--- նոշյ-ւսմին և Այսուսօ։

So be mindful of all of you who are next to evil and buy you the same 30 silver in the same Judas.

Before God you have an answer!!!

And the Turks...

turk is my enemy!!!

🔅 · Tərcüməni gizlət · Çevirməni dəyərləndir



28 Rəy 69 Paylaşma

Photo13.3 Screenshot of the flash mob

...

Յայոց Ազգային Բանակ 3 Nisan, 23:29 · ✿

Եռաբլուրը...

Ադրբեջանցին իմ թշնամին է, Ադրբեջանի հետ բարեկամու ջատագովները իմ թշնամիներն են…

Çevirisine Bak



"Azerbaijanis are my enemies, supporters of friendship with Azerbaijan are my enemies "

liked by 1386 people, shared by 290 users.

...

Photo 13.4 Screenshot of the flash mob

Turks and Azerbaijanis are my enemies "



Al Ik Yan bir bağlantı paylaştı. 15 saat · 🕲

Թուրքը և ադրբեջանցին իմ թշնամին է, ով կսատարի նրանց իմ թշնամին է

Çevirisine Bak



Photo13.5 Screenshot of the flash mob

"Turk is my enemy"

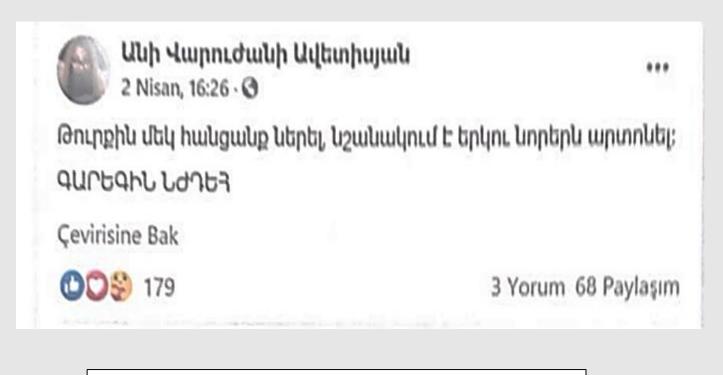


Photo13.6 Screenshot of the flash mob

In recent years the world community observed the tendency of glorifying Nasizm in Armenia. As such in the capital of Armenia, the former authorities erected a monument to the fascist executioner and traitor Garegin Ter-Harutyunyan, who served German fascists under the nickname of Garegin Nzhdeh. The former ruling Republican Party of Armenia took steps to perpetuate the memory of such an ambiguous nationalist politician as Garegin Nzhdeh, for whom there is information on his collaboration with the Third Reich. So, this obviously paves the way for the spread of neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to the escalation of modern forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance.

In addition, Nzhdeh's hostile attitude towards the Turks and his aggressive speeches and quotations at various times are still used in Armenian society (photo 15; 15.1).

We bring to your attention the posts of users of Armenian origin who express their hatred against Turks and Azerbaijanis on social networks with these quotes:



To forgive a Turk for one sin is to allow two new ones.

Photo 14. Facts about the use of Nzhdeh's quotes

The Armenian magazine "Yerkramas" using the quote from Nzhdeh¹²:

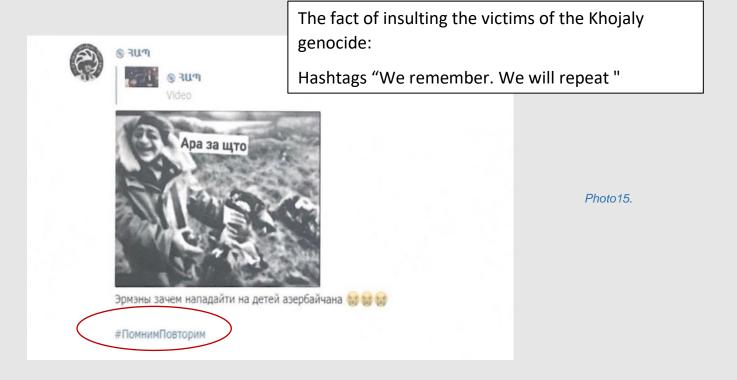


"Not a single day shall be spent without fighting with a Turk." (Garegin Nzhdeh)

Photo 14.1 Facts about the use of Njzhdeh's quotes

¹² Газета армян России: Новости армении сегодня (yerkramas.org)

Insulting the victims of the 1992 Khojaly genocide on several Telegram channels (photo 16; 16.1).





ArmFetish



One more fact about the humiliation of victims of Khojaly genocide:

"My favorite food store. There are always fresh Khojaly piglets."

Photo 15.1

Мой любимый продуктовый магазин. Всегда свежие ходжалинские поросята

Insulting the Republic of Azerbaijan and its national flag through social networks (photo 16, 17) :

The meaning of the life of every Armenian is to trample on the misunderstanding named "Azerbaijan"



Armenian Military Portal

Смысл жизни каждого армянина так же растоптать недоразумение под названием Азербайджан!!! https://t.me/armnakhijevan/1017



Video 6.5 MB Download Play video

Photo 16.

0 8

@ 232 11:46:32 PM



PUF @



Азербёматстан ведет против Армении и Арцаха гибридную войну, включающую в том числе элементы психологического воздействия.

Ранее глава т.н. "общественного объединения азербайджанской общины Нагорного Карабаха", депутат азербайджанского парламента Турал Гянджалиев заявил о намерении открыть в ближайшее время свой офис в Степанакерте.

Бабаян называет такие высказывания "бредовыми", но они полностью вписываются в стратегию Баку по оказанию психологического давления на армянскую сторону с целью вызвать волнения и раздрай в армянском обществе. По словам главы МИД НКР, после таких заявлений в Армении некоторые люди и круги могут обвинить собственную власть в тайных сделках с Азербайджаном, и это понимает противник. Бабаян указывает и на геополитическую подоплеку таких провокационных заявлений из Баку. Делается попытка вбить клин в армяно-российский союз, расшатать эти отношения, поскольку в восприятии армянского общества почти любая уступка Азербайджану делается с подачи российской стороны.

Rarmanlanetata

Photo 17.

The mosques were insulted on Telegram channels (photo 18) :

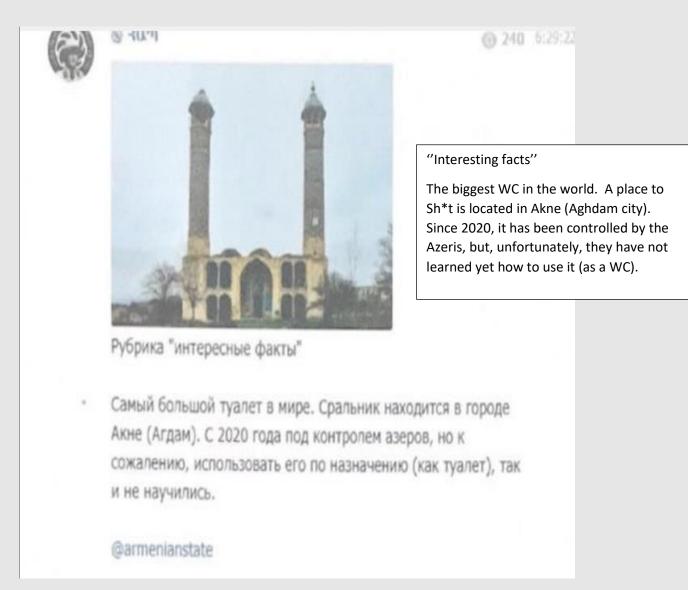
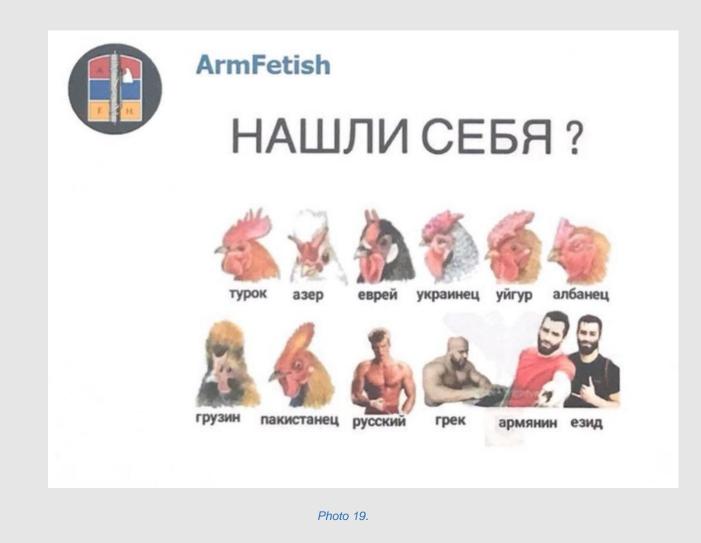


Photo 18.

We present a fact that is understood as a humiliation among the peoples of the Caucasus. Representatives of the Turkic peoples were ridiculed here (photo 19):



Acts of insulting the moral and national values of Azerbaijanis, sharing them in a series of cartoons, resembling various types of animals, were revealed on social networks. Thus, a caricature-style "cartoon" called "KillDim" on YouTube humiliates an Azerbaijani soldier, as well as attributes some inhuman features (zoophilia) to Azerbaijanis.



Photo 20.

Выражаем благодарность всем пользователям, оказавшим нам финансовую помощь. Благодаря пожертвованиям сделанным на нашем официальном сайте "killdim.com", была создана эта серия.

Thanks to all users for financial donations on official website "killdim.com" thanks to which the following part has been made.



Photo 21.

IV. The purpose of the policy of hatred pursued by Armenian leaders against Azerbaijanis and its negative impact on the psychology of future generations

Instilling hatred against Azerbaijanis and Turks in Armenian families resettled in Azerbaijan since the early twentieth century and promoting the establishment of "Great Armenia" in Azerbaijani territories led to genocide and various tragedies after the collapse of the Union Of Soviet Socialist Republics at the end of the century.

Thus, creating conditions for the smooth operation of terrorist groups of Armenian origin, turning a blind eye to their external and internal financing and the purchase of weapons led to more extensive operations by those extremist forces.

In 1988, psychological and physical violence was used by Armenian terrorist groups against the representatives of Armenian families living in Sumgayit city of Azerbaijan for not sending money to them (for example, terrorist organization Krunk (Crane)).

There were reports that as if Azerbaijanis committed terrorist acts in order to destroy the neighborly relations between the two peoples. News of fundraising for the genocide against Azerbaijanis turned the representatives of the two peoples, who have lived in good neighborliness for years, into enemies overnight was in line with the policy of those terrorist groups. Because that created conditions for the use of representatives of those Armenian families in commiting massacres and other crimes in future.

One of the goals of the Armenian political and military leadership is upbringing children as potential criminals in the future, by bringing young children of Armenian descent to the areas with active combat operations during the First Karabakh War and the Second Karabakh War and leaving deep wounds in their psychology. Instead of putting an end to it, they forcibly give military lessons to children by giving them weapons.

A statement of the Azerbaijani Ombudsman based on the facts that the Armenian military and political authorities used child labor in the war was sent to the relevant international human rights organizations. However, the Armenian political and military leadership has not refrained from such actions (photos 22-23).



Photo 22.



The Geneva Convention for the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War prohibits conscripting or enlisting children under the age of 15 years into armed forces or groups or using them to participate actively in hostilities and qualifies it as a war crime. Unfortunately, it is not surprising that the Armenian political and military leadership, which does not comply with other provisions of the Geneva Convention, ignores this rule.



Photo 24.

The consequences of upbringing of Armenian children during the Second Karabakh War: Minors of Armenian origin playing military games among themselves.¹³



Photo 25.

We present photos that can be found on social networks and have a negative impact on the psychology of children of Armenian descent. Minors of Armenian origin playing military games among themselves.¹⁴

¹³ <u>https://t.me/Caucasian_bureau/17928</u>

¹⁴ https://www.instagram.com/p/CPgjG jH1Gk/?utm medium=copy link



Photo 26.



Photo 27.



Photo 28.



Photo 29.



Photo30.

Photo 31.

Despite the repeated calls for peace by Azerbaijan, creating fake agitations, committing various provocations by Armenia in the border areas, will leave traces for a growing generation and this subconscious hatred will jeopardize peace in the region. After the collapse of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, why the politicians in power in the Republic of Armenia are still interested in prolonging the deliberately created conflict between the two peoples became clear in the questioning of politicians by the Armenian people after the Second Karabakh War.

Conclusion

The facts about the events that occurred in the recent past and obtained as a result of research, conducted in the preparation of this report, clearly show the intentions of the Armenian political and military leadership to continue the genocide committed against Azerbaijanis in the past.

The crimes committed against Azerbaijanis in the early and late twentieth century are repeated in the twenty-first century, and the Armenian political and military leadership uses every opportunity to continue this policy.

It is unfortunate that Armenian political and military leadership, instead of supporting peace and assisting the peace process in the region, tries to inflame this conflict by creating more severe wounds in the memory of the present and future generations.

We should all be concerned about the disrespect and disregard for human rights and freedoms by the Armenian authorities which ignore the international humanitarian law as well.

As the Ombudsman Institution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, we condemn the policy of the Armenian political and military leadership that leads to ethnic and religious conflicts and call on the relevant international human rights organizations and national human rights institutions to show solidarity in ending such activities that lead to new hotbeds of conflict in the region.

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