
AZERBAIJAN APPROVES ACTION PLAN ON KHOJALY GENOCIDE ANNIVERSARY

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Head of the Azerbaijani Presidential Administration has issued an order approving the plan of events on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of the Khojaly genocide.

The plan envisages laying wreaths at the Khojaly memorials in Khatai district in Baku, in Goranboy district and Agjakand village, holding press conferences, commemorative ceremonies at embassies, consulates and diaspora organizations of Azerbaijan in foreign countries, ensuring media coverage of these events both within the country and abroad.

Under the plan, religious confessions and organizations operating in the country will hold commemorative ceremonies for victims of the Khojaly genocide.

Meetings of heads of Azerbaijani state agencies, MPs with families of martyrs will be organized in cities and districts where Khojaly residents temporarily stay (Baku, Sumgait, Ganja, Mingachevir, Sheki, Goranboy, Barda, Sabirabad, Goychay, Zagatala, Oguz, Balakan).

On February 26, first lessons at schools will be dedicated to the Khojaly tragedy and a minute of silence will be held at 17:00 (GMT+4) throughout the country to commemorate the victims of the Khojaly genocide.

On Feb. 25-26, 1992, the Armenian armed forces, together with the 366th infantry regiment of Soviet troops, stationed in Khankendi, committed an act of genocide against the population of the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly.

As many as 613 people, including 63 children, 106 women and 70 old people were killed in the massacre. Eight families were totally exterminated, 130 children lost one parent and 25 children lost both. Some 1,275 innocent residents were taken hostage, while the fate of 150 people still remains unknown.

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