
TURKISH PM CONDEMNS 1992 KHOJALY MASSACRE

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26.02.2018

Anadolu Agency (25 February 2018)

Prime Minister Binali Yıldırım on Sunday condemned the Khojaly Massacre, which took place 26 years ago in Azerbaijan's now-occupied region of Karabakh during the war with Armenia.

"As the Republic of Turkey, we condemn the Khojaly massacre in 1992 during which our Azerbaijani brothers faced cruelty," Yıldırım said in a statement.

He said 613 innocent Azerbaijani civilians, including 116 women, 63 children and 70 elderly, had been slaughtered by the Armenian forces in Upper Karabakh on Feb. 26, 1992.

"A total of 1,275 civilians were taken hostage and the fate of 150 persons remains unknown to this day," Yıldırım said.

"We urge that the perpetrators of this attack be brought to justice at the earliest. We wish our Azerbaijani brothers and sisters Allah's mercy. Turkey will always stand by Azerbaijan and its people," he added.

The Foreign Affairs Committee of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey also condemned the massacre in a statement released earlier on Sunday.

"We vehemently condemn these massacres carried out by the troops of the Republic of Armenia as well as the continued occupation of the Azerbaijani territories for years," it said.

Presidential Spokesman Ibrahim Kalin also remembered the victims of the massacre. In his tweet, Kalin said that Turkey would always stand by Azerbaijan.

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