

My name is Qusay Doraghi I am from the Ahwazi Arab community in Iran. Today I represent the Solidarity Party of Al-Ahwaz.

In international law, a stateless person is someone who is "not considered as a national by any state under the operation of its law". But stateless means much more than the definition written in books. In countries like Iran the situation is different, religious and national minorities, may have official documents but nevertheless are stateless by practice when deny their full human right including preserving or expressing their national identity or religion freely!

- According to the University of Ahwaz only less than 1% high administrative positions granted to Ahwazi Arabs in their province! This means that almost 70% of the populations of Ahwaz region (the Arabs) held back of the key and important governmental positions due to their ethnicity
THIS MEANS STATELESSNESS!
- Ahwazi Arab in Iran continue to face marginalisation which aims at erasing their national identity and obstructing their personal development. This is done through a mono linguistic education system that prevents education in mother tongue!
THIS MEANS STATELESSNESS!
- Being Arab and having an Arabic name in Iran will drop your chances remarkably to get a job! Mohsen Heidari, Al-Ahwaz's current member in the Assembly of Experts and the representative of the supreme leader in Ahwaz said and I quite "a significant number of Ahwazi-Arabs had to change their names to a Persian one in order to get jobs"!
THIS MEANS STATELESSNESS!

At the end, I would evaluate that the main issue with countries like Iran is the concept of Nation state which the state and the citizens are defined by the idea of one language, one religion one flag!

Concept of extreme centralisation of governing putting diverse countries at the risk of a deadly conflict.

THANK YOU!