

Oral Statement of Association Projet Démocratique du Kurdistan iranien

12th session of the Forum on minority issues in Geneva,

28- 29 November 2019

Item 2: Human rights and minority language education

Ladies and Gentelmen,

The use of mother-tongue languages is a crucial means for nations without state and minority groups to express their cultural identity. The use of mother-tongue languages in education, both as the language of instruction and as an academic discipline, is a basic right which serves to protect and promote this aim. A natural right that the Kurds are ~~banned to have it.~~

deprived of

Kurdish-speaking people live in 8 provinces of Iran: Sanandaj, Ilam, Kermanshah, Orumieh, Hamadan, Lorestan, Northern Khorassan, Razavi Khorassan provinces.

Farsi is the only official language of the Iranian State, despite its 11 million-strong Kurdish population.

In 1979 Islamic Revolution leading to a new constitution in which the article 15 declared Persian as official language and authorized "teaching the literature of other languages", including Kurdish, in primary schools. Officially speaking, Kurdish was declared as a language for the first time in the history of Iran but This article has never been implemented in the field of teaching in schools.

As spoken by millions of people in Iran, Kurdish is officially recognized as a "local dialect" of Persian language.

The Iranian Constitution contains a general prohibition against discrimination in Article 19 which provides that, "all people of Iran, whatever the ethnic group or tribe to which they belong, enjoy equal rights and colour, race, language and the like, do not bestow any privilege." However, Kurdish nation in Iran have long suffered deep-rooted discrimination.

The use of the Kurdish language in education is frequently thwarted. Th Kurdish nation are targeted by measures designed to stigmatize and isolate them.

I myself, was a primary school in Iran, now I am forbidden in Iran and I left my land, the only reason was, using the Kurdish language in my teaching classes an

educate my students by our mother language, and that is horribly forbidden in Iran.

In Conclusion, I would like the following recommendation acknowledged:

- I request the Iranian government to adhere and practice the constitution and protect the Human Rights.
- I propose that, The Kurdish language and other non-Persian languages in Iran be thought in Schools.

Thank you