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Ladies and gentlemen, honored audience,

Firstly, we express our gratitude for the opportunity to address you and shed light on the deteriorating human rights situation in Iran and in Kurdistan, encompassing all regions with a majority of Kurdish residents, not just the Kurdistan province.

It is essential to emphasize that if public opinion, governments, and human rights organizations perceive the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran as discriminatory against various religious, ethnic, or national groups, as well as women, the situation is doubly severe in Kurdistan. Kurdish women, face discriminatory laws in numerous aspects of life — within the family, workplace, and public and private spheres. Simultaneously, they endure additional discrimination solely for being Kurdish women.

Consideration of specific statistics is enlightening. For instance, during the past year and the protests associated with the women's life and freedom movement, over 7,000 individuals were arbitrarily arrested by security forces in Kurdistan.

Regrettably, it is worth noting that, in comparison, at least 540 people were killed by security forces during protests in Iran in the past year, with 158 individuals being Kurdish. Many of the victims succumbed to direct gunfire, deadly baton blows, or other repressive means, while some died in custody under torture.

Honored audience,

It is imperative to acknowledge that certain issues and historical deprivations of the Kurds receive limited coverage in the free media and among the Iranian opposition. Discrimination, numerous human rights violations, and even violations of non-progressive laws of the religious regime in Kurdistan, along with instances of severe sentences and executions in Kurdistan prisons, receive less media attention compared to similar cases in the capital and major cities, underscoring media discrimination against the Kurds.

As a human rights defender organization, Hana insists on more attention and reflection on human rights violations against the Kurds. International attention to this matter can positively impact the situation in Kurdistan.

We stand ready to be an honest and reliable partner by presenting undeniable and documented facts.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this concise report.

Ghazal Mohtadi Ilkhanizadeh  
Hana Human Rights Organization

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