

Khojaly Genocide

Khojaly was a city of Azerbaijan located within the administrative boundaries of Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, on the road of Aghdam - Shusha - Khankendi - Askaran and near the only airport in the region. Population of the city was more than seven thousand. As the only airport of the region was located there, the city had a special importance in terms of transport and communication. That is why it was the only escape for the refugees of the city before the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict had started. The Meskhetian Turks escaping from ethnic agitation in Central Asia, and Azerbaijani refugees deported from Armenia had settled in Khojaly.

In February 1992, an unprecedented genocide was committed against the Azerbaijani population of Khojaly. As a result of this bloody tragedy, known as the Khojaly genocide, thousands of Azerbaijanis were killed or taken as captives, and the city itself was destroyed. On the night of February 25-26, 1992, with the help of the 366th Regiment of the former USSR, the Armenian armed forces captured the city of Khojaly. Before the night of the tragedy, Khojaly residents remained in the city and (about 2,500 people) tried to leave the city to reach the nearest Azerbaijani settlement after the attack on the city. But their plan failed. The invaders who destroyed Khojaly committed violence against the civilians. The brutal killing of hundreds of innocent residents of Khojaly was one of the bloodiest crimes committed during the armed conflict in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Armenian armed forces and foreign military units had brutally killed almost all people who could not escape from Khojaly and other districts. As a result, 613 people, 106 women, 63 children and 70 elderly people were killed, 1,275 people were taken as captives, and the fates of 150 people are still unknown. 487 residents of Khojaly were disabled, 76 minor children, 6 families were completely destroyed, 26 children had lost both of their parents, 130 children had lost one of their parents. Among the killed people, 56 people were brutally murdered, beheaded, their eyes were taken out, burned alive, and unborn children were removed from the wombs of pregnant women.

The officials of Armenia deny their responsibilities for their crimes that they had committed during the conflict, as well as the violence that they had committed against the population of Khojaly, they falsify the facts and want to comply them with their own considerations. Their approach is not only far from reality, but also contradicts the simple rules of logic. Despite all this, the sharpest propaganda will not allow to deny the facts that reflect such a real situation and to accept the far-fetched approach presented by the Armenian side. Along with the sufficient information in the hands of the law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the responsibility of Armenia for the tragedy is also confirmed by numerous independent sources and testimonies of witnesses to the tragedy.