



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

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Agenda item 4

### Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

#### **Note verbale dated 12 May 2020 from the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and has the honour to submit herewith the statement of the Azerbaijani community of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the twenty-eighth anniversary of the occupation of the city of Shusha by the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia (see annex).

The Permanent Mission kindly requests the Office of the High Commissioner to circulate the present note verbale and the annex thereto\* as a document of the forty-third session of the Human Rights Council, under agenda item 4.

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\* Reproduced as received, in the language of submission only.



**Annex to the note verbale dated 12 May 2020 from the  
Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations  
Office at Geneva addressed to the Office of the United  
Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

**Statement by the Azerbaijani Community of the Nagorno-Karabakh  
region of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

The city of Shusha, occupied on May 8, 1992, by the Armenian armed forces, was one of the most important strategic places in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan. As a result of the occupation, the city of Shusha and 30 villages of the district were destroyed, 195 civilians were killed, 165 people were injured, 58 people went missing, residents of the Shusha region (more than 24,000 people) became internally displaced people and settled in 58 regions of Azerbaijan.

In Shusha, distinguished by its unique urban planning architecture, there were 17 quarters: Gurdar, Seydli, Julfalar, Guyulug, Chukhur, Durdler Gurdu, Haji Yusifli, Dord Chinar, Chol Gala, Merdinli, Saatli, Kocherli, Mamayi, Khoja Marjanli, Demirchi, Hamam Gabaghi and Teze Mehelle. In each quarter there was a bathhouse, a mosque, a spring.

As a result of the occupation of Shusha, the armed forces of Armenia looted, burned and destroyed 25 schools, 31 libraries, 20 health facilities, 17 clubs, 8 houses of culture, 4 technical schools, 2 branches of institutes, 7 kindergartens, 4 cinemas, 5 parks of culture and recreation, 2 sanatorium, tourist base, 2 hotels, a branch of the State Museum of Azerbaijan Carpet, Shusha State Drama Theatre, Shusha Television, Oriental Musical Instrument Factory, State Art Gallery, Children's Health School.

28 years have passed since the occupation of Shusha, which is one of the cultural centres of Azerbaijan. We do not lose hope and believe that we will definitely return to Shusha and restore our ruined city.

On behalf of the Azerbaijani community of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, numbering more than 80 thousand people, including on behalf of more than 30 thousand representatives of the Azerbaijani community of Shusha region, we call on the world community to put an end to the aggression of Armenia against the Azerbaijani people, which continues today, to support the fair position of our country to give an objective assessment of the occupation.

We declare that a just solution to the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict is possible only after the withdrawal of the Armenian armed forces from the occupied Azerbaijani territories and the return of the ethnic cleansed Azerbaijanis to their native lands. We, as the Azerbaijani community of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, are ready to live in peace with the Armenian community of the region within the internationally recognized borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Only in this case can a sustainable and just peace be ensured in the region.

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