

# Turkmen of Iran Ratify the International Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Nations

Whereas we, the Turkmen people of Iran, do hereby establish and submit the following:

- A. The government of Turkmen is called Turkmeneli (land of Turkmen). According to Ethnologue, roughly 719,000 Turkmens reside in Turkmen Sahra today. The most important cities of Turkmen Sahra are Gonbad, Aqqala, Kalaleh, Maraveh Tappeh, Gomishan and Bandar Torkaman. Early nomadic empires have existed since before the early age of Massagets. According to the Avesta Afrasiyab, the legendary king of Turan hailed from Turkmen Sahra.
- B. Tribal sovereignty is an inherent right exercised by all tribal governments and has existed continuously even before our ancestors arrived in Iran.
- C. The Constitution of Turkmeneli and Khuzestan regulations recognize that tribes are distinct governments with inherent rights, power, privilege and authorities that are protected under the International Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Nations.
- D. The Turkmen nation has a unique government-to-government and trust relationship with the Turkmen tribes.
- E. Each tribal government provides essential services to its citizens including education, housing, health care and public safety and raises governmental revenue, like any other state government, through the operation of enterprises and the provision of goods and services in the marketplace.
- F. A number of Turkmen tribal governments are engaged in ongoing plans of autonomy with the Turkmen Iraq, Syria and Iran to protect their sovereign rights against unconstitutional intrusion.
- G. Since its founding, Turkmen of Iran have promoted the policy of tribal self-determination while opposing initiatives that threaten it.
- H. Turkmen leaders have put forth "privatization proposals" for Greater Turkmeneli included Turkmen Iraq, Syria, Iran that have all agreed to ratify the International Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Nations and seek to protect certain tribal lands and resources, particularly oil and gas, from development under the International Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Nations.
- I. Turkmen Tribes experienced state policies that developed paternalistic and assimilation policies that ignored Turkmen property rights and self-determination.
- J. State officials lack the training necessary to properly enforce federal laws and regulations that protect sites of archeological, cultural and spiritual importance to tribes.

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- K. Proposals and actions by state and federal legislators, officials and private parties undermine tribal policy of sovereign self-determination and the government of Turkmen.
- L. The International Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Nations enables Turkmen Tribes to develop plans to improve the traditional systems, elevate the quality of life, increase literacy and help develop autonomous rights in order to achieve economic stability and independence.

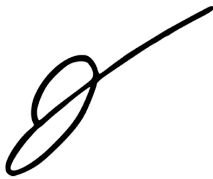
## **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND ADOPTED THAT:**

1. Turkmen of Iran hereby ratifies the International Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Nations.
2. Turkmen of Iran hereby reaffirms its policy of self-determination for Turkmeneli Nations and honors the treaty and trust relationship upon which the Covenant has been built and clarifies that Turkmen tribal governments of Iran have parity with local and territorial governments with respect to autonomy.
3. Turkmen of Iran hereby agrees to fulfill its obligations to restore economic development to Shra Turkmen.
4. Turkmen of Iran will work to restore the tribal land base through continued support for tribal trust lands and transferring federally held lands back to the original tribal owners.
5. Turkmen of Iran will continue to modernize the land management system to emphasize tribal decision-making and control and ensure continued trust land protections.
6. Turkmen of Iran will invest in infrastructure in Turkmen Country including roads, bridges, schools, colleges, hospitals, water and power systems.
7. Turkmen of Iran restores respect for the sovereignty of Tribal Governments in the Iran Turkmen community.

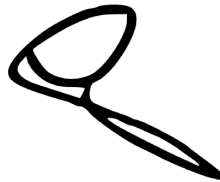
## **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted by Turkmen of Iran on November 24th, 2020 of the Common Era.

[signed]



Ghazi-Haldari



Mahmoud Muzreh



Sheikh Jalal Sherhani