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www.afgazad.com

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Iran asked to stop executing Afghans

By Rahmatullah Afghan

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Thousands of people on Sunday rallied in this central capital against the Iranian government demanding an immediate halt to the process of executing Afghan death-row prisoners in the neighboring country, where several immigrants were reportedly burnt to death recently.



The demonstrators gathered near the Iranian embassy in Kabul Sunday morning chanted slogans against the Iranian government for what they called committing atrocities on Afghans.

The protest comes amid reports that six Afghan refugees, held on the charge of smuggling drugs, were recently hanged by the Iranian authorities. Some Afghan MPs, representing Herat province on the Iranian border, said about 45 Afghan immigrants had been executed across the border on the Iranian soil.

The angry protestors turned onto the streets a day after some members of the Lower House of Parliament claimed the body parts of Afghan citizens, executed in Iran, were removed.

An MP, Ramazan Bashardost, Saturday stressed on a protest movement against the Iranian government. "If we pour onto on the streets, a million of Kabul residents would join us", he has said.

The former presidential candidate suggested the protestors should encircle the Iranian embassy till Tehran stopped its cruel treatment of Afghans.

Shouting "death to Ahmadinejad", the Iranian president, and "down with Iran", the angry Afghan protestors demanded an immediate halt to the cruel behavior with Afghan refugees.

Iranian security personnel raided the houses of Afghan refugees in the central Iranian city of Yezd, killing four and wounding 110 others, according to reports. The raids took place after an Afghan immigrant killed an Iranian national in the city.

Sunday's demonstration in Kabul was organised by a political party, Masharikat-e Mili, led by a Kabul MP, Najibullah Kabuli.

"The houses of Afghan immigrants were torched in Mahrez area of city," Kabuli told Pajhwok Afghan News.

Iranian forces irresponsibly enter the houses of Afghan refugees, said Kabuli, who alleged the Iranian forces had brutally killed a couple after taking them from their house.

He said the protest was arranged to show their anger against the killing of Afghan immigrants.

"I share the grief with my brothers who are tortured in Iran," one of the protestors, said.

Muhammadullah Ahmadi urged the International Community to force the Iranian government to stop the execution of innocent Afghans. The demonstration that started from the Iranian Embassy at about 8:00am concluded at the Shahr-i-Naw Park at 10:30am.

A resolution read out at the end of the demonstration urged the closure of a particular camp in which Afghan refugees were punished. The Iranian ambassador to Kabul must be summoned by Foreign Ministry to explain the inhuman action against Afghans, the resolution urged.

It added the execution of Afghans was against the human rights and the bilateral relations between the two countries.