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Iran's complaint against MP deemed undiplomatic

By Muhammad Jawad Sharifzada

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Afghanistan has criticised the Iranian embassy for making a complaint to the Attorney Generals office against an MP, saying such a move was neither diplomatic nor friendly.

The complaint was submitted two weeks ago, and accused the MP, Ramazan Bashardost, of threatening to kill Iranian diplomats over the execution of Afghans in Iran.

But Bashardost, an MP from Kabul, said on Sunday that Iran had misunderstood him.

"I said that if I had power, any country responsible for one drop of blood of Afghans whether it's Iran, France, Germany or the United States, they should be ready for spill two drops of their own blood."

In an interview with an Afghan TV channel, Bashardost had also allegedly praised the Taliban for killing Iranian diplomats.

The Attorney Generals office confirmed it had received the objection, but said the complaint should have been lodged with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The foreign ministry confirmed it should have been the proper channel for the complaint to be made.

Political expert, Nasrullah Stanikzay, said the embassy was not following the correct diplomatic channels.

Another expert, Muhammad Younus Fakur, accused Iran of "doing more than what was diplomatic or neighbourly".

Iran has lost the trust of the Afghan people by hanging Afghan immigrants, said the head of the Centre of Regional Studies of Afghanistan, Abdul Ghafoor Lewal.

The Iranian embassy also submitted a letter to the foreign ministry after receiving a call threatening to kill its diplomats, said an official with the embassy, who asked not to be named.

Bashardost made the statement in an interview with an Afghan TV channel in which he also praised the Taliban for killing Iranian diplomats years back, the Iranian official said.