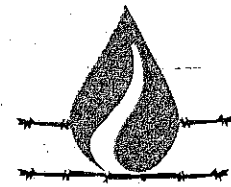


**Organization for Defending Victims of Violence**

**6<sup>th</sup> Minorities Session**



Organization for Defending Victims  
of Violence

**Extremism and defending minorities rights**

**Support for the existence of religious minorities and prevention of violence against them**

One of the most important challenges of the governance of any country is the reduction of disputes related to cultural, social and religious differences. The diversity of cultures in any country can be seen as an opportunity and on the other hand in the event of disregard result in grave violation of human rights as well as violence, and also be seen as an important threat for any country.

Understanding the importance of this subject the international community in various international conventions and covenants stresses on the observation of the rights of minorities and refraining from violence, and allocated important conferences such as the Minorities Form for the solving of minorities issues.

Nonetheless the world continues to face the violation of minorities rights, and the existing solutions have not been able to result in the full observation of minorities rights. One of the important reasons that violence reduction solutions have not brought results is the extremism and violence of groups who for the sake of the protection of minorities rights resort to acts of terror and spreading of fear, and the outcome of these actions have not only not led to the observation of minorities rights, but they have increased violence within society too.

Also some political groups and even countries exploit the situations of minorities in other countries and on the pretext of the defense of minorities rights and in pursuit of their political objectives, through the public order and calm of the society into chaos and take violent measures such as assassinations and bombings.

While condemning any form of extremism and violence, our NGO believes that for so long as there is not a comprehensive view towards the solving of minorities problems, and the role of extremist and opportunist groups who on the pretext of defending minorities rights entice and commit violence are not considered, violence shall continue to be committed against minorities. This NGO stresses that new and deeper solutions must be considered for the protection of minorities, and various aspects of minorities related issues.

This NGO believes that the intertwining of minorities rights related issues and the condemnation of the role of extremist groups can play a significant role in the realisation of the rights of minorities.