

Testimony One

Nomad Communities of the Amarkhel Tribe

The conflicts between the nomads and Hazara people are from long ago but these increased when the nomads migrated and did not come to these areas. When they came back to their grazing areas, the Hazara people treated them badly and told the nomads not to come to these areas. Slowly the conflict increased. Before the revolution, conflicts occurred between the nomads but these conflicts were over livestock that may have gone into the agricultural field of the Hazara people and eaten wheat or corn. This was solved through negotiations and the nomads paid the cost to the Hazara people. Also, there were good relations between the Hazara people and the nomads as they traded with each other.

Three years ago Hazara people took three donkeys of the nomads with themselves and these donkeys belonged to the nation of Amarkhel.

In the autumn season when the nomads came back from Hazarajat regions to their winter staying areas they brought 35 sheep and calves with them. Then the people of the area informed the district that their 35 sheep are missing for two days and they alleged this on the nomads. Later the district-head of Daimurdad district called me and said that our nomads have taken 35 sheep of the Hazara people.

After that I told the district-head to wait until I know which group or tribe came from Daimurdad district. When I knew that they had taken 35 sheep with them then I wanted to solve this conflict. Later I found those people who had come from that area two days ago. I called them to the administration and I asked them why they took the sheep of the Hazara people. They told me that the Hazara people had taken their 3 donkeys and they admitted that they took 35 sheep of Hazara people. Then I told the district-head that the nomads had taken 35 sheep with them.

After that the representatives of Hazara people came and requested the governor in the capital of the province. He referred this matter to the provincial committee and the provincial committee referred this to the administration of nomads. I was appointed from the administration's side, we came to the administration of nomads and we decided to solve this conflict. I told the leaders of the nomads who knew this matter that some people from their tribe had taken sheep from the Hazara people. The representative from Hazara people's side admitted that they have taken three donkeys from the nomads. Then we asked both sides if they wanted to solve this conflict. Both sides accepted that this conflict should be solved. At first we, the representative from the provincial committee and I, took the power from both sides to solve this conflict. Both sides accepted this and said that they would accept whatever decision we made. Then I and the representative from the provincial committee decided that in place of each donkey we will give one sheep to the nomads and the rest of the livestock will be given back to Hazara people. Both sides reconciled and promised that they would not make conflict with each other again, and take each others livestock. Then, they embraced each other.

In the year 1387 (2008) I was appointed as a representative with Sabaoon and we went to Tezak area to see the area where bullets were fired on nomads. We saw the places from where the nomads left the Hazarajat regions for warmer places in autumn like Jalalabad and Maidan-Shar in the spring. A commander of the Hazara people by the name of Jafar was sitting hidden to attack the nomads during the winter stay. They attacked the nomads, injured a few and also inflicted losses to their livestock.

In the same year 1387 (2008), once again the Hazara people attacked the nomads at night, when the nomads reached the Tezak area. The Hazara people started firing on the nomads and the nomads were forced to leave the area. While the nomads were escaping from the area, the Hazara people were still firing on them and they injured two nomads. The nomads took the injured people with them to Maidan-Shar for treatment.