



DAY OF THE MISSING APRIL 27, 2010

Republic of Kosovo
Gjakova-Me

“Today we stand with respect and in solidarity with the Kosovo families who have missing relatives from the war. This important day of Remembrance has been officially designated by the Kosovo government as the ‘National Day of Missing Persons’. Although the war has ended over ten years ago, these families have questions that have remained unanswered. Over twelve hundred people are still missing. Without closure, these families cannot move forward with their lives to be productive members of society,” said Jane E. Durgom-Powers, founder and president of IFFAMPAC, the International Federation of Family Associations of Missing Persons from Armed Conflicts.

IFFAMPAC’s Kosovo representative, Mr. Sheremet Ademi, was a featured speaker. His brother and two twin nephews are still unaccounted for. Mr. Ademi spoke of the horrors of the Serbian forces, which on April 27, 1999, in less than one hour killed over 375 targeted citizens of Muslim, Catholic, and Bektashian faiths, just because they were Albanians. Countless individuals also remain unaccounted for from that day as well. It is important to remember that as time passes, memories fade from eyewitnesses, and physical remains become less reliable and inaccessible.



It is important for governments to work with the families on this issue as a priority. Families must be provided with all information associated with their missing members so that they may seek closure and move forward with their lives with dignity and respect for those whose human rights were ferociously violated. It is important for governments to work with the families on this issue as a priority. Families must be provided with all information associated with their missing members so that they may seek closure and move forward with their lives with dignity and respect for those whose human rights were ferociously violated.

Your donations of funds or service will help us to act as an advocate, link and archive for family associations and enable IFFAMPAC to create a centralized, accessible, global database of information regarding the missing and their families. Donations are US tax deductible. IFFAMPAC is a 501(c)(3) organization.

If you would like more information on this issue, or if you can help us to obtain further funding, please contact us at:

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IFFAMPAC CONTINUES TO WORK WITH THE KOSOVO GOVERNMENT TO DRAFT NEW LAWS ON MISSING PERSONS AND THEIR SURVIVING FAMILIES

Republic of Kosovo

Prishtina

IFFAMPAC is pleased to announce that its role in serving on a working group assisting the Government of Kosovo in writing a new law for families of missing persons from armed conflicts is progressing. IFFAMPAC's Kosovo representative, Mr. Sheremet Ademi, an attorney states that, "IFFAMPAC's role is to ensure that the families of missing persons receive justice and that their interests are protected."

IFFAMPAC and the Kosovo family associations are coordinating their efforts to draft provisions which are critical to be enacted in order to protect the human rights of the families and their rights to know the fates of their missing loved ones. Extensive meetings have been held to impress the importance of these issues to the Kosovo Government authorities, and the need to protect the rights of families of missing persons from the armed conflict from 1998- 1999.

This Working Group was created by the office of the Secretary General of the United Nations, and IFFAMPAC was appointed to serve, and has served, on it since 2006. IFFAMPAC's president and founder, Jane Durgom-Powers, an international humanitarian and human rights lawyer is working closely with its Kosovo representative, Mr. Sheremet Ademi, who is also a distinguished and well respected attorney.
