

Hello, My name is Hamida. As you know, I am writing to you from the other side. I am writing to you from a country you consider your enemy from your childhood. But if I am writing this letter and you are reading this letter, it means that we are individuals who are making steps for changing the current situation.

In the past, I also thought not all Armenians are bad, and it wasn't only us who suffered from forced deportations. I first understood this when I was reading the book "A" authored by Qaraqan (an Azerbaijani writer). The hero of that book is an Azerbaijani, who with all his force had hated Armenia and Armenians, believing that all Armenians – from any child to any elderly – were cruel, bad and vicious. But one day he was informed that he was an Armenian, and during the war he had come to Azerbaijan by mistake and had grown up there. From here, it is understood that this hatred and vengeance has nourished us. Who would like to leave his home, backyard, and garden, and go once and forever? We are usual students here in Baku and, when it is possible, we go to our regions. In spite of this, we miss our homelands very much. Now just imagine that someone forever leaves the places of his memories. Such cruel cases happened with citizens of both sides.

For the second time I thought to myself, how could it happen? Two peoples living together like neighbors, sharing bread and marrying each other, killed women and elderly people the next day by torture without pity. Of course, first of all, I do not think that the peaceful population did that. Probably, they had chosen the bravest men to do all that. After that, both sides had some unpleasant incidents of self-defense.

It is true that this conflict, which has been taking place for 30 years, is coming from an earlier past. But I think not only you are sinful. As young people, we aim to destroy this hatred, which is not beneficial for anyone, and raise our children without saying that Armenians or Azerbaijanis are your enemies.

With good wishes!