

## Diplomatic Immunity: Hostages in Iran - 1979

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Since ancient times, nations have recognized diplomatic immunity as a fundamental aspect of relations between and among sovereign states. Such immunity is recognized not only by long established custom but also in intergovernmental conventions and international law. In addition, it is part of the relations between and among sovereign nations to call for withdrawal from service in the host country of any person whom the host country considers persona non grata. But under no circumstances is the abrogation of diplomatic immunity justified.

Therefore, the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods in 32nd Biennial Assembly convened in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, December 6-11, 1979, urgently calls upon Iran immediately to release unharmed the hostages now being illegally held and to grant safe passage to them for return to the United States. Furthermore, we commend the Security Council of the United Nations for its unanimous decision calling upon Iran's government to accept this principle and immediately to act upon it.