



**Associazione  
3 Febbraio**

**Anti-racist Inter-ethnic "3 Febbraio" Association**

# **JUSTICE FOR SAMAN ABBAS**

## **victim of patriarchal violence**

The tragedy of Saman Abbas saddens us greatly, a young 18 year old from Pakistan who wanted a dignified life like all of us: she wanted to build a future towards her freedom and happiness, while on the contrary, she was probably murdered by members of her own family. Her uncle, her father, her mother and two cousins are suspects under investigation for premeditated homicide. What was her so called wrongdoing? Wanting to choose freely how to live, where to live, who to love and how to love. Saman went missing, like many other women, because she opposed herself to an arranged marriage and unfortunately this is not an isolated case. Sana Cheema, a young woman from Pakistan who lived in Milan, was strangled by her relatives in 2019 (11 accused and unpunished) because she also refused their marriage impositions.

What value does human life have for all of us? What value does the life of so many young women who try to affirm themselves, looking for a better life and looking for love? For people like Saman's relatives, her life and her choices were not as important as the so called family "honour", their own tradition or their patriarchal control! For us, on the contrary, recognising and defending women's life and freedom is beneficial for the whole of humanity and it would mean recognising and defending everyone's freedom.

Let's learn from Saman's courage and her search for a life of freedom and happiness, chosen beyond family impositions. Let's commit to building and nurturing spaces of closeness and humane solidarity towards a possible pacific and respectful living side by side among people of different ethnic groups, beliefs and cultures. We call upon all people who hold humanity dear to their hearts, to react, to unite to say ENOUGH:

Enough silence. Enough "honour crimes".

Enough absolutions for executioners. Enough imposed marriages.

- **WE DEFEND WOMEN'S LIFE AND FREEDOM TO BE  
ABLE TO CHOOSE**
- **AGAINST PATRIARCHAL OPPRESSION OF WOMEN**
- **ENOUGH FEMMINICIDES!**

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