

Jin, Jiyan, Azadi

Women, Life, Freedom

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Woman, Life, Freedom

“Jin, Jiyan, Azadi” (Women, Life, Freedom) is a Kurdish slogan that originated in the Kurdish freedom movement, particularly within the struggle for women’s rights and liberation in the Kurdish regions. Here’s how it started:

Kurdish Liberation Movement

The phrase emerged as a core slogan in the Kurdish freedom movement, particularly in the 1990s, when the PKK began emphasizing gender equality as a fundamental part of their struggle against oppression.

Role of Kurdish Women

Women played a crucial role in the Kurdish armed struggle and in political movements. The slogan reflects their fight for both gender equality and national liberation. Organizations like the YPJ (Women’s Protection Units) in Rojava (Syrian Kurdistan) adopted it to represent their vision of freedom.

Philosophical Underpinnings

“Jin” (woman) and “Jiyan” (life) are etymologically connected in Kurdish, symbolizing the idea that the liberation of women is essential for a vibrant, free society. “Azadi” (freedom) ties this to the broader aim of social and political freedom.