TAHIRIH CONDEMNS THE ADMINISTRATION’S LATEST PROPOSED ASYLUM REGULATIONS

Today, the administration proposed new regulations that attempt to use public health as a pretext to deny asylum claims. The rule would give the Departments of Homeland Security and Justice the authority to bar asylum protections to anyone who is from, or passes through, an area where the U.S. government has determined that COVID-19 is “prevalent.” The rule would also give the government a free hand to bar asylum seekers on the basis of other diseases. Today’s regulations, combined with last month’s proposed asylum rule, would effectively end the ability to seek asylum in the United States.

“We vehemently condemn and oppose the administration’s latest attack on asylum and immigrant communities,” said Archi Pyati, Tahirih Chief of Policy and Communications. “The policy scapegoats immigrant communities for the administration’s failure to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, pushing the hollow, dehumanizing, and xenophobic narrative of immigrants as spreaders of disease. As a country that was built on colonialism, genocide, and slavery, rooted in white supremacy and racism, we are seeing the very worst parts of our history repeat itself today.”

Archi Pyati is available for comment on this topic. Please contact rachelp@tahirih.org to arrange an interview.

About the Tahirih Justice Center
The Tahirih Justice Center is a national, nonprofit organization that serves immigrant survivors seeking safety and justice. We amplify the voices of survivors in communities, courts, and Congress to create a world where women and girls enjoy equality and live in safety and with dignity.