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Ethnic violence in Kyrgyzstan

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The recent civil unrest in Osh, Kyrgyzstan between the Kyrgyz population and Uzbeks has left over 100 dead and nearly 2,000 people injured – resulting in the worst violence seen in the region for two decades. Additionally reports have said that around 200,000 people have been displaced amid the violence.

Tensions between different groups have left life in the balance for many. A quarter of a million have fled to Uzbekistan but there are numerous more that have no access to food, clean water, sanitation and medical supplies.

The United Nations has sent the first of the aid today, as have the United States and Russia. A lot more support is required from international sources to stop the violence which has also spread to Jalal-Abad. We urge that all humanitarian organisations and all governments to assist in any way they can.

As always, our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost so much and we look to the international community to intervene now before even more innocent blood is shed.

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For more information please call Mohammad Shakir, Communications Coordinator for the Muslim Charities Forum on 020 7368 1645 or email mshakir@muslimcharitiesforum.org.uk