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## Azeri President: Ill-Fated Plane was fired upon while over Russian territory



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Baku, December 29 (QNA) – Azerbaijani President, Ilham Aliyev, said on Sunday that the Azerbaijan Airlines plane that crashed in Kazakhstan, a few days ago, was fired upon while over Russian territory.

The official TV in Azerbaijan quoted Aliyev as saying that the passenger plane that crashed in Kazakhstan and resulted in killing 38 people was fired upon while over the Russian territory and

was rendered uncontrollable by electronic warfare systems, highlighting that the plane was not intentionally downed.

In addition, Aliyev highlighted that he regrets the attempt of some circles in Russia to cover up the fact about this incident and disseminate false narratives about the causes of the incident.

The various speculations put forth by Moscow for the facts clearly demonstrated that the Russian side wanted to cover up. Therefore, admitting the guilt, apologizing in a timely manner to Azerbaijan, which is considered a friendly country, and informing the public about this – all these were measures and steps that should have been taken, stressed Aliyev.

On Saturday, Russian President Vladimir Putin issued an apology to Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev for what the Kremlin described as a tragic incident in Russian airspace, where an Azerbaijani Airlines aircraft was downed after Russian air defenses launched a strike to intercept drones fired by Ukraine.