

To the United States Government:

Our reference: F/024-004/L/2

Subject: Unjust approach to the Turkmen Case in Iraq

Nijmegen, Thursday, May 22, 2004

Dear Sirs

No doubt, the Iraqi people are so grateful to the American administration for displacement of the dictatorial Saddam regime and for your attempts to establish a democracy in Iraq. However, some of your policies and actions after liberation do not conform to the realities of Iraq.

It is very essential that the American administration controlling Iraq should be more conscious about the rights of different sections which compose the Iraqi community, particularly the Turkmen who constitute the third largest nationality of Iraq.

We, the Iraqi Turkmen, have always been ignored and disregarded by all the previous Iraqi governments, are now seeking and urging assistance and recognition from the U.S. administration. While we are struggling to gain our rightful place within the Iraqi society by constantly demanding our legal rights, do still feel being ignored, unfairly treated and being betrayed by the US administration.

There are few unexpected, unfair mistakes being committed by the US administration towards the Iraqi Turkmen which would affect the preservation of faith and trust towards USA amongst the Turkmen.

1). Handing out Kerkuk city to the Kurds by the American officials through an unfair city council election in May 2003.

2). Disregarding the role of Iraqi Turkmen Front (ITF) as a formal political representative of Iraqi Turkmen population and the most active Turkmen organization in Iraq and abroad, They have been denied a representation in the Iraqi Government Council by appointing an inexperienced Turkmen lady (Mrs. Songul Chabuk) who has no experience neither in politics nor in administration.

3). The Turkmen population, who predominate the Kirkuk city, are usually ignored by major U.S. officials. The most recent one is by Mr. Paul Wolfowitz, Deputy Defence Secretary during the Senate hearings on May 18, 2004.

We urge you to review your policy towards the Iraqi Turkmen population, as it is essential for you to get the cooperation of the third largest nationality in building democracy and establishing stability and peace in Iraq.

Sincerely yours

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