



Iraqi Turkmen Human Rights Research Foundation

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The attempts of Kurdish authorities to subdue the Iraqi non-ruling communities (minorities) continue

An examiner of recent history of the north of Iraq will easily learn that in two historically short stages, the Iraqi Kurdish authorities converted from a suppressed community to the suppressors. Unfortunately, the suppressive policies of the Kurdish actors were supported by the majority of the Kurdish community, even the intellectuals. This may be due to the absence of the democratic culture and democratic political system.

Just before 1991 the Iraqi Kurds were living the most suppressive period in their history; the western community, led by the USA, instituted the Save Haven to protect the Kurds. With the assistance of the international community the framework of the administration in the Save Haven was largely improved in several years. The second stage started after 12 years with the occupation of Iraq. Two main factors brought the unqualified and slightly experienced Kurdish parties to the peak of the pyramid of the administration in Iraq. Firstly, the unplanned USA occupation led the occupier to grant absolute support to the Kurds and second, the other Iraqi political groups were all totally inexperienced and with whom the USA could not institute strategic contracts.

Moreover the dissolution of the Iraqi military, police, security and most of the other governmental administrative structures aided the Kurdish militant parties in sweeping vast regions behind the boundaries of the Save Haven into four Iraqi provinces, which now are called the disputed areas. These areas include regions with millions of other populations, including Arabs, Turkmen, Chaldo-Assyrians, Yazidis or Shabaks (Shah Begs). Since the occupation all other Iraqi communities continuously reported violations of their human rights by the Kurdish authorities. The administrations were 'Kurdified' and the demography altered in the favor of the Kurds. The Kurdified administrations corrupted the Iraqi general elections and dominated the city council of the non Kurdish sub-districts, districts and cities. Thousands of non-Kurdish Iraqi peoples were arrested and taken to prisons in the Kurdish area, many of whom are now missing. Others were assassinated or kidnapped and killed. The United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) reported such Kurdish intimidation of the other Iraqi communities. The Kurdish interests were further imposed on the Iraqi constitution. Kurdish authorities frequently disregard the Iraqi state and its legislative process, such as the Iraqi oil law. They consistently violate the laws which have been passed by the Iraqi parliament. All of these events take places under the vision of the USA and the West.

In this state of Kurdish despotism, the wealthy Kerkuk region became the main goal of the Kurdish authority's greedy. All types of human rights violations, marginalization and assimilation policies are practiced in the Kerkuk region by Kurdish political parties supported by the Kurdish militant Asayish and Peshmerga forces.

Kerkuk events of 28 July 2008 frankly explain the hostile mentality of the Kurdish authorities and their unlimited demands to contain the Kerkuk region. Thousands of Kurdish protesters, largely from other provinces and supported by Kurdish security agents, attacked and ransacked buildings belonging to Turkmen political parties and civil society organizations. Many members of these organizations were injured and several have been kidnapped. Turkmen shops and business buildings were attacked and some burned. Unfortunately, the province's military and police forces, which constitute mainly Kurds, stand on the sidelines. As in 1959 (http://www.turkmen.nl/1A_soitm/KJ1959P.doc), the Iraqi Turkmen are now living in a state of fear, afraid of being exposed to other massacres.

The **USA and the Western community**, who are the major builders of the uncontrollable hostile power of the Kurdish administration, should intervene to stop the Kurdish militant parties from:

- Suppressing and attacking the millions of Iraqis in the so-called disputed regions
- Violating the Iraqi laws
- And to contain the Kerkuk province