

## **Press Release**

### **Attacks on Turkmen cities in Kerkuk and Mosul**

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Under the severely Kurdified civil administration, police, security and military systems, the defenceless Turkmen are continuously exposed to the rage of the Kurdish Pashmargas and Occupation Troops. Kidnapping, assassinations and arrests force them to leave their regions.

#### **Yengice**

At 2.2.2007, the Turkmen village of Yengice, which suffered a devastating raid by the Kurdish Pashmargas in the past year, exposed to 2 terrorizing attacks by the American soldiers and militant Pashmargas in the same day.

The attacks happened under the pretext of searching for weapons and the terrorists, despite the absence of activities of resistance and no attacks realized in the region against the occupation.

Around 10 am, a group of mixed USA soldiers and Militant Pashmargas in the National Guards besieged the Yengice village of Tuz Khurmatu District. At 2 pm, a group of KDP Pashmargas entered the village.

The second group, which constituted armed Kurds wearing military and civil clothes, were very aggressive. They collected a group of men while they were laughing putting them in a corner under the sun, ordering them not to move or talk to each other. After an hour they ordered the arrested inhabitants to return their home without any explanation.

Houses were stormed and roughly searched. The doors were broken. The furniture was destroyed. The inhabitants were insulted and threatened with death if they did not hand their personal weapons. Those who opposed were beaten in front of their family members. In some quarters, those who asked why they were raided were hushed, cursed and kicked. They were stretched out on the ground and the feet were put on their bellies. Their wives were assaulted. Their children were frightened.

Forty licensed personal weapons were taken from the inhabitants. Personal weapons of Turkmen policemen were taken, too. Sixteen inhabitants were arrested for no reason without indictment; among the arrested people were staff members of the governmental offices.

#### **Mahallabiya**

The collective punishments are becoming a usual procedure, which the occupation authorities use frequently in Iraq, particularly, in Turkmen regions of Mosul.

At 3.2.2007, a group of foreign armed men entered Turkmen sub-district Mahallabiya in the west of Mosul Province. A battle took place between them and the USA and Iraqi

National Guards, which continued for several hours then the armed men withdrew from the city.

Subsequently, the city was besieged and the entrances were blocked for 4 days and the troops spread in the streets. Full day complete curfew was applied from the first day, at the third day only one hour was given to the inhabitants for shopping. The peoples suffered severely from shortage of food mainly due to the closing of the market and the prevention of entrance of foodstuffs from outside.

The use of electric generators was not allowed which caused the city to be engulfed in the darkness.

Almost all Houses were aggressively raided and roughly searched; the doors of almost all houses in the city were broken. Several houses were stolen. The furniture and the equipment were destroyed. The inhabitants were insulted. Twenty innocent inhabitants were arrested a sixty years old man in between them.

Due to bombardment by American helicopters 2 houses were severely demolished. Four inhabitants were killed: among them were a child of 12 years old called Isam Muhammed Abd al-Rrahman and a woman called Aziza Amin was killed by the Iraqi National Guard.

The head official, the police chief and several police officers, who are original inhabitants of the city, were arrested and sent to the Thamarat Camp, despite the fact that the police forces strongly fought the insurgents and several policemen were injured.