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Peace perception of the President Bush: a tragic outcome of the sectarian hate created by the occupation

Telafer, historically is well known to be an entirely Turkmen populated city. It is the only district which separates the Kurdish region of Northern Iraq from the Syria where some Kurdish concentrations live that is called "Syrian Kurdistan" by the Kurdish media. The frontier gate which Turkey is intending to establish would pass through *Telafer* bypassing the Kurdish region. As a consequence, *Telafer* region turn up to be, geopolitically, a vital region for the USA-allied Kurds. The chronic clash between the Kurds, who wanted to seize the city and *Telafer* people, had led to attract different Sunni fighters into *Telafer*. This had further made the occupation troops and the Shiite dominated Iraqi army to get involved into conflict against *Telafer* people.

Since the early days of occupation, *Telafer* people remained under destructive military campaigns by three professional military squads i.e. The Kurdish militia (Pashmarga), Iraqi National guards and the occupied American troops. The city has since been encountered two big attacks by tanks and helicopters. Various offences i.e. intimidations, random arrests, assassinations, kidnappings, bombings were carried out to change the demography which still continues. This had led to create a sectarian hatred which damaged the infrastructure and cost a large number of casualties.

On 27 March 2004, around 4 pm, a big body-trapped truck was exploded by a suicide driver in *Kanber Dere*, neighborhood of *Telafer* which is inhabited by both Shiites and Sunnis Turkmen. This was the heaviest ever bombing attack since the occupation in 2003.

Mr Al-Juburi, the mayor of city announced that 107 had died and 149 wounded, while the Interior Ministry claimed 152 dead and 347 injured.

The explosion had destroyed over 100 poor-quality brick built house which is the nature of the buildings in such poor neglected town. It was followed by another explosion at *Mehrap* Junction of the city which targeted a notable and killed 3 and injured 15.

At the same day evening, *Telafer* policemen, which are mainly Shiites, together with other gunmen, had attacked, in an attempt for revenge, the Sunni houses killing dozens of Sunnis.

According to the information gathered from the *Telafer* general hospital 60 bodies were received who were killed by shots into the heads. The mayor slightly dropped this number into 56, while the local civil society organizations claim the number of casualties to be around 76 and 15 injuries, who all were killed as revenge.

On the second day, the Iraqi army in *Telafer* imposed a curfew to the city and arrested 18 policemen, who were released without charge after 6 days.

In his speech on 20th March 2006, president bush claimed that the US had brought peace to *Telafer* and advised the same job equally to the other regions of Iraq!!!