

Dr. Jawad Mella

WESTERN KURDISTAN WHICH IS OCCUPIED BY SYRIA

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Western Kurdistan Association

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Dedicated to the pioneering activists and
heroes leaders of Western Kurdistan:

Prince Jaladat Baderkhan

Apo Osman Sabri

Rashid Kurd

Jegerkhween

Dr Noraddin Zaza

and all the holders of the banner of Kurdaïati
'the Kurdish movement ideology' and those on
the path of freedom for the Kurdish People and
independence for Kurdistan

Introduction

The subject of this publication is Western Kurdistan and the Kurdish people in that region, and the extermination and discrimination they are subjected to. It is my duty to introduce this important essay of which all the Kurdish people and their friends everywhere should be aware, not only to bring the ruling Syrian Baath regime to justice for the crimes against the Kurdish people in Western Kurdistan, but also to put Western Kurdistan under the protection of the international community and make it a safe haven which is exactly what has happened to the Kurdish people in Southern Kurdistan since 1991.

It is well known that the area of Western Kurdistan (Syrian Kurdistan) is half the size of Southern Kurdistan, a third that of Eastern Kurdistan and one tenth that of Northern Kurdistan. However Western Kurdistan remains a part of Kurdistan and it does not matter if this part is located in the middle of the region, at a peripheral location or anywhere else on the map. Its area is also of no significance. The important thing is that Western Kurdistan is a part of Kurdistan that we should not forsake or ignore this in any case; for whoever forsakes one part of Kurdistan, will one day forsake the whole of it. The Kurdistan National Congress gives particular importance to this ideology, including supporting the Western Kurdistan Association since its establishment in the UK in 1997. This association's creation is regarded as a huge step in the right direction, as it was the first

organisation for the Kurds of Western Kurdistan that was licensed officially by the British government, and also the first organisation to carry the name of Kurdistan rather than the word Kurdish as opted for by other organisations representing people from this region. The purpose of this distinction is to emphasise the existence of Kurdistan in Syria. Also the establishment of a committee to award a prize - named after the late Apo Osman Sabri- headed by the distinguished Kurdish thinker Dr Jemal Nebez, is another step in the direction of the same banner of struggle and truth lifted by Apo Osman Sabri in Western Kurdistan since the start of the last century.

Those who deny the existence of a part of Kurdistan inside the borders of the Syrian state make an argument for the fact that some Kurdish families had moved into there from other parts of Kurdistan. It is true that some Kurdish families came from Northern and Southern Kurdistan to Syria under certain circumstances and that our Kurdish families in Syria left for Northern or Southern Kurdistan. This happens in all countries everywhere. Can anyone deny that hundreds of families had moved from Hummus or Hamah to Damascus or vice versa? This kind of displacement does not affect the fact that those families remain Syrians, or to put it another way, that Damascus, Hummus or Hamah don't stop being a part of Syria. The same applies to Kurdistan as well.

There are also agents of the Syrian authorities, who distribute such propaganda that there is no Kurdistan in Syria. Of those we mention

Munzir Al-Mouseli, previously a Syrian Intelligence officer and a member of “People’s Council” at the moment, who published a number of books regarding the Kurdish cause. In his books, he mentions some real facts, accompanied however with a lot of lies. One of the facts he mentions is that there is no Kurdistan in Syria. It is unfortunate that some establishments and Kurdish organisations claiming to support the Kurdish people, repeat the allegations of such agents of the Syrian authorities as Al-Mouseli to name but one.

I would like in this introduction to also emphasise the importance of a higher degree of activities for Western Kurdistan and the rights of our Kurdish people there –about two and a half million people- that leads to freedom and independence. Any effort for this small part of Kurdistan is a national duty. This increase in activity gains further momentum when one realises that there are so many large conspiracies against this part, not less than with those carried out against the Red Kurdistan Republic in the former Soviet Union that lasted for 9 years (1921-1930) and was subsequently abolished completely. However, this time we are aware of the situation and those that oppress others will pay at some point in the future.

Dr Jawad Mella
London 11/11/2007

Ethnic Cleansing Policies and Mass Extermination the Ruling Syrian Baathist Regime Way

The suffering of the Kurdish People in Western Kurdistan / Syria

The best way to start my essay is to quote a phrase by the English philosopher and thinker John Stewart Mil: “The whole humanity has no right to silence even one person just for thinking in a different way”. On this basis and as a person belonging to the oppressed Kurdish ethnicity, with a population of around 40 million (two and a half million of whom are under the Syrian colonial occupation), suffering from the worst kind of oppression and tyranny, being destitute from the simplest human rights, and facing the continuous threat of extermination by the hands of the Syrian authorities under the rule of the Baath Party I feel the need to speak to your conscience in this open letter. I think differently from those tendencies that the authorities occupying my country tend to follow.

The objectivity demands that I should mention that it is and has always been in the interest of any country and its citizens to establish a true democratic authority reflecting the true will of all people via free and honest elections leading at the end to the establishment of a civil society with all its known institutions, through a multi-party system under the rule of the law, securing basic rights and freedom for citizens and guaranteeing them a humanely acceptable standard of living. As the mentioned issues and concepts are lacking in Syria, the Syrian

Baathist regime have been able to commit too many cruel crimes against the Kurdish people and seriously violate their human rights (that is of course if the Baath Party regards Kurds as humans), summarised in the following:

A BRIEF HISTORY ABOUT THE ETHNIC CLEANSING POLICIES AND MASS EXTERMINATION CRIMES

- 1- On 30/11/1960 the Syrian Security authorities burnt to death 380 Kurdish pupils in a Cinema in the town of Amuda while they were watching a picture about the Algerian revolution (a brother of the author of these lines was there and escaped miraculously, while those others turned to a coal-like substance). It is not necessary to mention that the Syrian government at the time did not bother to form an investigation committee for this unspeakable crime. However, our bitter experiences with the Baath's rule leave us with no alternative except to conclude that the Syrian government is the only side that benefits from the extermination of Kurdish people's sons and daughters.
- 2- On 24/2/1993 the Syrian Security authorities burnt to death 73 young Kurds in Al-Hasaka Central Prison. In order to hide the evidence of its crime, the Syrian government accused 5 innocent young Kurds of starting the fire. They also carried out the execution of those five youths in a suspiciously rapid time by hanging them so as to eliminate all witnesses, causes and facts of this massacre. However, all the evidence and background of this crime (including information available to us) suggests that members of the Baath party and

persons from the Ministry of Interior (Minister of Interior personally), and the Intelligence Services had participated in planning and executing this mass murder operation. For obvious reasons the Minister of Interior, at the time Muhammad Harba, denied any political or ethnical dimensions to the incident of fire in Al-Hasaka prison or the involvement of any official authorities in it (Al-Hayat Newspaper 24/5/1993);

- 3- The Syrian government used the arrival into Syria of Mr Abdullah Ocalan, the General Secretary of the Kurdistan Labours Party (PKK) in the beginning of the eighties through to his deportation from Syria and his arrest in 1999, and up until now, as a factor for putting pressure on the Kurds in this part of Kurdistan and creating divisions between them. The Syrian government, in an attempt to gain political points against Turkey (conflicts of water and other regional and border issues) attempted to make the Kurds concentrate on external problems instead of activities to gain their just national rights from the Syrian government which does not even recognise the different ethnic identity of the Kurdish people. In order to achieve these political aims and in a way that it could somehow get rid of the educated and aware sectors of the Kurdish masses, the Syrian government made an agreement with the leadership of the

PKK to recruit Kurdish youths (most of them students of high educational institutions, of whom we can provide a list of thousands) into the ranks of the PKK fighters. According to our sources that are based on the testimony of a few survivors, many of these Kurds met their death in mysterious circumstances inside training camps around Damascus and Al-Bukaa' valley. All these facts support our suspicion that Syrian Intelligence and their Death Squads, carried out the orders from higher authorities to exterminate 3000 Kurdish youths from the Al-Jazira Kurdish area, and 4000 more from Jabal Al-Akrad and Kubaniah. Further concrete evidence for that comes from the Syrian compulsory military service laws which demand that every young man should receive a reminder regarding his coming military service. Nevertheless, none of those young men who disappeared received this routine reminder, so it is easy to ponder on the question that asks: how did the Syrian government know that those men are among the dead?

It is worth emphasizing that these kinds of mass murder crimes against the peaceful Kurdish people cannot be subjected to the principle of time passage in criminal law, as they are crimes against humanity. The Syrian authorities should be held responsible according to the UN treaty of 1968 regarding non-application of war crimes

and crimes against humanity to the principle of time passage. Also, these crimes are within the responsibility of the International Criminal court of Lehigh and it's necessary according to a number of international conventions (including the international treaty of 1968 as mentioned above) – to put the Syrian officials on trial as war criminals similar to those people who committed crimes against humanity in Bosnia and Croatia. We hereby introduce a list of some Syrian officials who committed crimes against humanity in relation to Kurdish people in Western Kurdistan:

- 1- Mohamed Talab Hilal, head of Political Security Department in Al-Hasaka.
- 2- Saeed Al-Sayed, head of Political Security Department in Al-Hasaka.
- 3- Salim Kaboul, head of Political Security Department in Al-Hasaka.
- 4- Hafiz Al-Asad, President of Syria.
- 5- Bashar Al-Asad, President of Syria.
- 6- Abdul-halim Khaddam, vice President of Syria.
- 7- Muhammad Harba, Minister of Interior, who is known to Arabs and Kurds as Mr 'Martial' because he likes to imprison people under martial laws.
- 8- General Mustafa Al-Tajir: head of Military Intelligence known as Branch of Palestine no. 235, sadistic, vicious and bloodthirsty in his torture treatment against detainees.
- 9- General Adnan Sulaiman Berir Al-Hassan: head of Political Security

Department in Syria, responsible for many vicious crimes against Kurdish people.

- 10-General Muhammad Nasif: was actively involved in torture whilst heading the Department of Internal Security no. 251 in Damascus, he is now deputy chief of State Security Administration in Syria.
- 11-Colonel Muhammad Mansura: head of Military Intelligence branch of Qamishli, responsible for the death of many Kurdish detainees under torture.
- 12-Colonel Abdul Rahman Al-Nahar: responsible for the disappearance of tens and torture of hundreds whilst heading State Security branch no. 330 of Qamishli, currently Deputy Chief of Internal Security in Damascus.
- 13-General Husham Al-Bakhtiar: head of Damascus Military Branch, famous for his cruel methods of torturing the detainees.
- 14-General Asif Shawkat: Head of Forces Security Branch, Branch 291, he is husband of Bushra Al-Asad, Hafiz Al-Asad's daughter and the current president Bashar Al-Asad's sister. He is responsible for killing hundreds of Kurdish youths under torture.
- 15-Colonel Ezzaddeen Sulaiman: head of Central Investigation Committee of Military Intelligence in Syria, famous for his cruel methods of torturing the detainees.
- 16-General Ezzaddeen Ismail: head of Central Investigation Committee of Airforce Intelligence in Syria, famous for

his cruel methods of torturing the detainees.

- 17-Colonel Abdulrazaq Mutlaq: head of Central Investigation Department of Political Intelligence in Damascus, he is one of the worst enemies of the Kurdish people and an active participant in torture activities.
- 18-Colonel Hani Ismail: head of Procedures and Investigation Department of Immigration and Passports Administration, which belongs to Syrian Ministry of Interior, famous for his cruel methods of torturing the detainees.
- 19-Colonel Faiz Al-Nuri: head of State Security High Court in Syria, which is a Martial court to abolish all opposition to Baath party's rule from both Arabs and Kurds, he is responsible for killing hundreds of Kurds and Arabs. He used to be head of the Field Court from 1975 to 1985.
- 20-Colonel Ali Duba: the most bloodthirsty of them all, when he was head of Military Intelligence in Syria, he worked on the development of the torture system. He is now retired and works in business between Damascus and Al-laziqiah.
- 21-General Ibrahim Hawija: head of Airforce Intelligence Administration, he is no less a barbarian than the others.
- 22-General Bahjat Sulaiman: head of Branch 251 – Internal Security in Syria – Damascus, famous for his cruel methods of torturing the detainees.

- 23-Colonel Ali Mamlook: head of Investigation Branch of Airforce Intelligence in Damascus, he is also famous for his cruel methods of torturing the detainees.
- 24-Major Mahmood Saed: head of Investigation Department (No 5 of Branch 235 – Palestine) specialised in Kurdish parties, famous for his hatred for the Kurdish people.
- 25-Major Khedir Al-Ali: head of State Security Branch in Qamishli, famous for his cruel methods of torturing the detainees.
- 26-Colonel Wajeeh Ali: head of Political Security Branch in Qamishli, he hates the Kurdish people and commits all sorts of crimes against the Kurds in Al-Jazira area.
- 27-Major Ibrahim Badawi: head of Airforce Security Branch in the town of Qamishli, a sadist and malevolent, takes pleasure in torturing the Kurds.
- 28-Colonel Omar Hamida: head of Syrian Intelligence in the town of Aleppo, he is responsible for killing and torturing Kurdish youths from the areas of Aleppo, Afrin and Kubani.
- 29-Major Munzir Al-Mouseli: was head of Political Intelligence in Qamishli from 1966 to 1975, and is responsible for imprisonment and torture of many of the Kurdish people, alongside a large number of the initiators of Arab chauvinism among whom was Muhammad Talab Hilal and others.

- 30-Abdullah Al-Ahmar: Deputy General Secretary of National Leadership of Baath Party.
- 31-Zuher Mashariqa: Deputy General Secretary of Regional Leadership of Baath Party.
- 32-Muhammad Mustafa Miro: Member of Regional Leadership of Baath Party and Prime Minister of Syria.

The last three, Abdullah Al-Ahmar, Zuher Mashariqa and Muhammad Mustafa Miro are responsible for issuing political orders and decisions to oppress, exploit, torture, deprive and humiliate Kurdish people in Syria. They are also responsible for racial discrimination against the Kurdish people and violating their ethnic rights and identity in order to dissolve them into Arabic nationality. Those three should be held responsible for all barbaric actions against the Kurds such as killing, displacement and abolishing the Kurdish identity and Kurdish existence geographically, historically, ideologically and culturally, acting previously and up to now under direct orders from the previous Syrian president Hafiz Al-Asad and current president Bashar Al-Asad.

For this reason we ask all governments and official and non-official organisations, especially the United Nations and Court of International Justice, as well as all those organisations concerned with human and national rights, to bring those mentioned to justice so they can be punished for the crimes committed against the Kurdish people. This will act as a deterrent and lesson for any other

regime that tries or attempts to violate anyone's human rights and dignity.

The information above has been taken directly from the reality of the tragic circumstances of the Kurdish people under the rule of Baath dictatorship on the one hand as well as my personal ground research during visits to all corners of the Kurdish populated areas after I finished my studies abroad and returned to Syria. I met many families of the victims, before I was arrested by the Syrian Intelligence, who gave me only two choices: either to remain in Syria on the condition of collaboration with the Security Organs and thus betray the holy cause of the Kurdish people or leave my homeland behind forcefully. In order to preserve my humanity I chose the second option. I also relied on my many meetings with a large number of Kurdish refugees, who escaped the Baathist hell and reside in different European countries.

I remember in this regard, an iron cast logo hung by the Nazis on the gate of Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland, in which hundreds of thousands of Jews, Slavians and others were exterminated, saying: "Work frees humans". This sort of ironic ideology of concentration camps is not a speciality of Hitler's men alone, as the massacres committed by the Syrian Baath and those committed by her sister party, the Iraqi Baath under the leadership of the dictator, butcher, war criminal and anti-human Saddam Hussein in Halabja and Anfal operations clearly illustrates. Their acts give the full impression of viciousness and violence of this fascist party that puts the banner of: "one united Arab nation

with an eternal message, our aims are unity, freedom and socialism” in all places where most bloody and cruel crimes of our times have been committed.

I would like to mention here that it is not in the interest of neither Arabs nor Kurds that the Syrian government grants political asylum to Nazi war criminals and hides them in Damascus. The previous Syrian dictator Hafez Al-Asad did just that in 1972, when he granted political asylum to a well-known Austrian Nazi Alois Brunner. This Nazi criminal was a high ranked SS officer in Hitler’s forces, and now uses a false name; George Fisher (a correspondent of the German newspaper Bunte interviewed him in Damascus on 30/10/1985, while residing at his last known address no. 7 George Haddad Street, Damascus). He is wanted by international justice for his involvement in the extermination of more than 24 thousand people in Poland and France. One does not have to be a genius to understand the circumstances of his hiding in Damascus. He has put his practical and theoretical experience in physical extermination and setting up concentration camps under the service of the Syrian government. This experience was used creatively and with unprecedented cruelty in burning the Kurds to death without resorting to building gas ovens as that which occurred in the fire in Amuda cinema in 1960 and Al-Hasaka prison in 1993.

However, the fact remains that Kurdish people ethnically and culturally belong to their own part of the geographical map of the area since ancient times and it is impossible for any

Syrian or Iraqi Baath massacres against these freedom loving people, to simply wipe them out from that map.

Was it in the interest of the Syrian peoples to give the international terrorist Carlos, who is now imprisoned in Paris, a Syrian diplomatic passport?

Another question comes to mind in this regard: is it a coincidence that Hitler's book "Mein Kampf" is forbidden in Germany, Austria and many other European countries, while it can be bought cheaply in any bookshops in Damascus and Baghdad?

The Syrian government had signed the international treaty against the crimes of mass extermination of 1948, and to punish those who commit such crimes as stated in its second article:

"Mass extermination means the following acts committed with the intention of complete or partial extermination of a national, ethnic, race or religious group as follows:

- 1- Killing members of that group.
- 2- Causing grievous bodily harm or damaging the mental health of that group.
- 3- Creating intentional living conditions for that group in a way that leads to their complete or partial extermination."

If we analyse the conditions of the Kurdish people in Syria from all aspects and in the light of the mentioned articles of the international treaty, we come to only one undisputable conclusion which is: the Syrian government through its actions and chauvinist policies against Kurdish people aims to exterminate

them as an identified ethnic group that is different from other Syrians in their language, traditions, psychological features and history, and partially also in religion (by which we mean the Kurdish Ezdy sect ..etc).

In order to avoid abstract rhetoric, we bring facts from the reality of Kurdish people in addition to unlawful judicial actions by the Syrian government itself, confirming the substance of the mentioned article of the international treaty regarding mass extermination.

EXTERMINATION OF KURDISH PEOPLE THROUGH POISONOUS WASTES

According to information available to us and testimonies of Kurdish refugees, who managed to escape 'Baath's paradise!' there has been a notable increase in deaths among the Kurdish population due to cancer of late. The reason is the Syrian government has started putting poisonous and radioactive wastes in different locations inside the Kurdish areas. This happened several years ago for millions of dollars, and many Syrian officials had a hand in this:

Jamal Abdul-Halim Khaddam, son of the deputy president of Syria and Fawaz Jamil Al-Asad, son of Syrian president's brother.

In 1985 poisonous nuclear waste was buried in Jabal Abdul-Aziz area, Kaukab area in A-Hasaka and between Al-Hasaka and Qamishli west to Tal Barak.

This fact was also confirmed by the famous Syrian journalist and human rights campaigner

Nazar Naiuf, who was imprisoned by the Syrian Intelligence for 9 years without any trial or even charges, in his press conference in Paris on 16/7/2001.

Eradication of material basis and living means of the Kurdish people

In order to destroy the infrastructure of the Kurdish society and consequently to dismantle and exterminate them, the Syrian government had issued a series of laws in this direction, among which:

- 1- Law No.93 (23/8/1962), known as "Arabic Belt), according to which fertile agricultural land was confiscated from Kurdish farmers and given to Arab farmers, brought by the government from Al-Raqa area. These are in actual fact armed Arabic settlements inside Kurdish areas in order to change the population structure and falsify the geographical facts.
- 2- Immediately after this law another unprecedented racial law was issued on 5/10/1962 , called the exceptional census law. This law deprived more than 150 thousand Kurdish people from Syrian nationality (according to the human rights organisation in Middle East, they are now more than 650 thousand). Hence they were suddenly converted into foreigners lacking any rights, despite the fact that Kurdish people have lived on their own land for a thousand years before the

establishment of the modern Syrian state. The danger of this since remarkable law lies in the fact that it is directed to disassemble the relations in Kurdish society and specifically the Kurdish families. There are such families where only one or two members are given the Syrian nationality, while the others are regarded as foreigners. (In the author's family only the eldest brother is regarded as a Syrian citizen, while 10 other members of the family are foreigners). The essence of this racial law contradicts even the articles of civil affairs law of 1969 (articles 2,3 & 4), which grant a foreign woman the right of acquiring Syrian nationality by her Syrian husband, while the Kurdish women are denied the same human right. This applies to men as well. This law violates all international human rights treaties (especially the international declaration of human rights "Article 15" and Lausanne convention of 1923 as a whole and denies the Kurdish people such elementary human rights as: right for employment and education (as order 687-m signed by Minister of Higher Education Dr. Kamal Sharaf , on the basis of decision no. 1976-1, forbids Kurdish youths that have been denied Syrian nationality from admission to universities and higher institutions in Syria), and also the right of possession (houses, properties & business places are not allowed to be registered in their names). In addition to this every year

many students are being dismissed from special educational institutions, teacher training and other schools by special orders for pure racial reasons under the pretence of danger to state security. This is even more ironic if we remember that the first president of the Syrian Academy of Science directly after the independence of Syria was a Kurdish prominent figure "Muhammad Kurd-Ali". In addition to that there is the economical sanctions, deprivation and humiliation policies carried out by the Syrian government against the Kurdish people by dismissing those few government employees under the pretence of their danger to state security (decision of previous governor of Al-Hasaka and current prime minister Muhammad Mustafa Miro No. 111467 on 18/10/1991). There are also thousands of Kurdish youth who served in the Syrian army but their nationality certificate was randomly withdrawn from them later on for apparently racial reasons.

- 3- The area of Jabal Al-Kurd is famous for its rich agricultural products, especially olives, which is the main source of living for its Kurdish population. In order to damage their economics the Syrian government in 1992 claimed that olive trees in the area have been infected by a disease and should be sprayed by pesticides. So, the authorities sprayed the whole area with something which was not a pesticide but chemicals that

killed hundreds of thousands of olive trees. This was just one of the methods used against the Kurdish people for their deprivation, humiliation and forcing them to leave the lands of their ancestors and bring Arabs to settle in their place. Indeed the Syrian authorities have brought many Arabs from different areas to reside in Jabal Al-Kurd area in the same way that happened in Al-Jazira and Kubani areas. In the forties when Syria gained its independence there was not even one Arab person in Jabal Al-Kurd and its capital town of Afrin, while now the Arabs make a large ratio of population in the area. However, no matter how large a number they become, the areas of Jabal Al-Kurd, Al-Jazira and Kubani remain parts of Kurdistan.

- 4- Even small employees such as temporary teaching staff have been dismissed for endangering the state security. One wonders what kind of state could a temporary teacher endanger and thus be a security risk. Also Kurdish solicitors are not allowed to join the solicitors union and are being dismissed from it. We can bring you a lot of examples of this.
- 5- It is not even appropriate to call the Kurds in Syria as second class citizens. There is no degree to accurately describe their miserable situation. The Kurdish people are not only forgotten, but also the judicial system of the Baath party has sentenced them to death, and

the sentence is carried out gradually and silently. Otherwise how can we explain the non acceptance of Kurds in military or police colleges, in diplomatic staff and the non-existence of any political representation of the Kurds in the government or parliament, which is completely against article 27 of the international convention for civil and political human rights of 1966 and article 21 of the international declaration of human rights, as well as the Syrian constitution itself. On top of that the Kurdish areas in Syria are rich with animal and agricultural resources exported by the Syrian government for their high quality as well as natural resources such as petrol in Al-Jazira and minerals in Afrin, while the area has been neglected intentionally and made empty of industrial projects. This has left 85% of its population below the poverty line. The ration of unemployment is more than 60%. These unusual conditions created by the Syrian government deliberately for the Kurds is worse than colonisation and aims at complete extermination of Kurdish people.

THE RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, STATE TERROR, TORTURE, EXTERMINATION OF CULTURE, DISPLACEMENT AND OPEN VIOLATION OF KURDISH PERSON'S RIGHTS

The policies of racial discrimination, terror and torture against the Kurdish people are not from individuals or independent organisations, but it takes a systematic official form, behind which stands a state represented by the Syrian government and its repressive organs. It is not a coincidence that the Syrian government is in the black list of every international organisation dealing with human rights. This is because of its black history in this regard. Let us take one single example such as the decision of the Ministry of Interior No. 122, on 30/9/1992, ordering that in the Kurdish populated provinces such as Al-Hasaka and others- when registering newborn babies in Civil Affairs administrations, prior permission of the Security organs must be taken regarding the name of the baby. This is a legal precedent in the history of racial discrimination, completely against the international convention of 1966, signed by Syria itself. This law is a quintessential of racism by all measures as it forbids Kurdish people from naming their children by Kurdish names. We have seen recently the Syrian officials during the international conference regarding racism in the town of Durban in South Africa, which was held in the beginning of September 2001, along with the Syrian media stating accusations against other countries that they are racists and Nazi, while saying nothing

about their own racist practices and despicable crimes against the Kurdish people.

I speak many foreign languages, however only abroad did I learn to write in my mother tongue (because my mother tongue is illegal according to the Syrian law), and I regard all living languages without exceptions as treasures for human culture and stars lightening our sky. Ones who try to abolish any of the languages are comparable to ones trying to shoot down one of our stars and find darkness in its place. It is a shame that in this era of globalisation and coming together of peoples and civilisations, we find Kurdish language and culture banned by law in Syria. It is forbidden to use this language in schools, universities and official establishments (secret decree no. 1856 – S25, issued on 1/11/1989 and signed by former governor of Al-Hasaka province & current Prime Minister Mustafa Miro). There are no Kurdish schools or university, let alone any Kurdish publications or books. (please look at the following website for more details: <http://www.yasa-online.org/yasa-ar/Yasa.html> .

While during the French mandate era in Syria there were two Kurdish newspapers and Kurdish programs were broadcast regularly from Damascus and Beirut radio stations. These violations happen at a time when the Baath party constitution and all its publications stress the human essence of Arabic nationalism. One asks: where is this fabricated human essence as far as the tragic situation of the Kurdish people is concerned? Those ethnicities with the same problems as ours such as the Red Indians of Imara and Kichua in Peru for example, have long had schools

and publications in their native tongue. What would have been their situation if for instance the Baath party was ruling in Peru? Furthermore, there are many Syrian institutions teaching different languages, while the Kurdish language is the only one banned from teaching in Syria!

Successive Syrian governments, in their attempt to strangle and exterminate the Kurdish culture at different times resorted to state terror against the Kurdish politicians and intelligencia. Killing, imprisonment and sending them to exile are common: A few examples of poets, authors and politicians are the following: assassination of Prince Jaladat Baderkhan in an incident created by Syrian Intelligence in 1952 and going after his brother Prince Kamiran Baderkhan, who spent the rest of his life in exile. Also Dr Nooraddin Zaza and Esmet Sharif Wanly, Jiger Khwen and popular artist Muhammad Shekho. One other example of violation of cultural rights of Kurdish people by Syrian authorities is the recent closure of Jaladat Baderkhan Cultural Association in the town of Qamishli in March 2001 and banning its cultural activities. After closing the Association, the Syrian authorities arrested some of its members and associates and pursued others so that many of them were forced to flee abroad, away from their harassment. The arrest of politicians forms a long list starting with the famous leader, educational figure and poet Osman Sabri, who was arrested 18 times during different eras. In the sixties other Kurdish political figures were imprisoned and tortured such as Jawad Mella and Hoshang (son of) Osman Sabri. In the

seventies the lawyer and current general secretary of Party Muhammad Nazir Mustafa and his colleague Daham Miro were imprisoned for tens of years without any trial or official charges. Even the Kurdish school pupils were not safe from terror and harassment of security organs: on 15/12/1988 the Syrian Intelligence arrested 17 Kurdish pupils (from two primary schools in Qamishli) accusing them of raising the Kurdish flag on the roof of the school. The pupils were tortured by the Palestine branch of Syrian Intelligence and sentenced to a cruel jail term, amongst them perhaps the youngest political prisoner in the world by the name of Ahmad Ali Dawood aged only 10 at the time.

To all human rights organisations:

The closure of Syria's Bastille (Al-Maza prison) was a step in the right direction to rescue the country from the deep hole dug by the Corrective Movement and in order for Syria to join the convoy of human civilisation and the democratic civilised world. However, this is impossible to achieve with betting on the same policies towards Kurdish people and keeping relics and constructions similar to the Berlin Wall and Bastille in the Kurdish areas, built both in reality and in the minds of the Baath party and the Syrian government. No doubt the interests of the Syrian people demand the building of a society on the basis of tolerance, social peace and equality for all ethnic origins.

During his visits to Spain and France, the Syrian president Bashar Al-Asad spoke about human rights and dialogue between civilisations. I would like to ask: what about the Kurdish people's situation, who are threatened with extermination by the hands of the Syrian government in the context of this beautiful and sugary speech?

I would like to finish this essay of mine with a quote from a politician, saying: "intolerance leads to losing the feeling of safety, and without safety there cannot be a lasting peace".

We are inviting you to speak up to show solidarity with the Kurdish people because extermination and displacement by the dictatorial-colonial Syrian government threaten their existence.

Appendix 1
Some examples of decisions and orders
issued by the Syrian government against
Kurdish people, indicating true nature of
racist policies:

Minister of Local Administration

According to the organisational administration law no. 496 dated 21/12/1957 and local administration law no. 15 dated 11/5/1971, and judicial decree no. 36 dated 11/8/1971 including the establishment of Ministry of Local Administration, and law no. 56 dated 15/7/1980.

And the decision of executive bureau of Al-Hasaka province council no. 541 dated 14/1/1997.

The following is decided:

Article – 1 – names of 55 villages in Al-Hasaka province should be changed to the new suitable names shown beside each of them.

Article – 2 – names of 49 farms in Al-Hasaka province should be changed to new suitable names shown beside each of them.

Article – 3 – this decision should be published and informed to everyone concerned for carrying it out.

Damascus 20/12/1997

Minister of Local Administration

Yehia Abu Asli

This decision was distributed by Al-Hasaka governor under no. 14875 dated 6/1/1998.

To presidents of all cities, towns and municipal councils

In confirmation to our decision no. 933 h dated 24/2/1994 regarding the necessity to carry out the announcement of Ministry of Local Administration no. 13/61 d dated 26/4/1987, and according to article four of organisational administration law no. 496 of 1957, and article one of judicial decree no. 139 dated 6/1/1952 including the following:

It is not allowed to name general and private stores, hotels, night-clubs, cafes, bars, restaurants or any similar establishments by foreign non-Arabic names “meaning Kurdish names”. We ask you to take the following procedures:

- Make a list of places named by non-Arabic names.
- Give a one week notice to their owners to name their places with Arabic names, otherwise they would be closed and actions taken against them.
- Not to issue licences to any new places if their names were not Arabic.

For information and carrying out, we should be informed about the actions taken.

Al-Hasaka 6/12/1995

**Al-Hasaka province
President of Executive Bureau
Subhi Harb**

Syrian Arab Republic
Ministry of Interior
Internal Security Forces
Organisation and Administration Office
No. 1028 s
Date: 5/10/1421 A.H.
31/12/2000 A.C.

General Order

We confirm the essence of instructions distributed to you regarding investigation of lost identity cards, especially instruction no. 327 s dated 15/7/1998, and permanent order no. 1224 s dated 2/10/1982.

You have been asked to take the following actions:

- 1- Start investigation immediately after claims from any citizen of losing their identity card with intend to carry this out as soon as possible to enable the citizen to get a new identity card as soon as possible.
- 2- There should be deep investigation and research about anyone who claims losing identity card with co-operation with Political Security Branch of the province in question.
- 3- The departments of police and checkpoints should examine thoroughly each identity card to confirm validity and correspondence to holder.
- 4- The Civil Registration offices should not renew any lost identity cards for any citizens of Kurdish origin unless confirmed by each of: Political Security Branch, Military Intelligence Branch and General Intelligence Administration, otherwise held responsible.

- Civil Registration secretaries and unit commanding officers are responsible for careful execution of this order.

Dr Muhammad Harba
Minister of Interior
Signature

Cc/

- Deputy Minister of Interior for Civil Affairs
- General Administration of civil affairs
- Civil Registration offices
- Distributed on police stations
- To be kept in permanent collections
classified as no 3/part A/ civil affairs branch
- Archive

Appendix 2

List of colonies (settlements) created by the Syrian government in Kurdish areas in Western Kurdistan (Syrian Kurdistan), and their new Arabised names:

Old name of village	New Arabised name
Gir Halik	Tal Hazara
Mosa Gogo	Tal Alrakam
Kadani	Tal Lhafara
Frmania	Alknitra
Bir Knis	Alkirwan
Khazna	Zar Alarab
Mshirfa	Alsadia
Bab Alfaraj	Alraka
Najm	Alkora
Haram Shikho	Alhatamia
Kari Moza	UM Alrabia
Kar Hmdon	Bsira
Gharaza	Aljabri
Tal Ailun	Tal Tashrin
Jamaaia	Um Alfarsan
Tanuria	AlTanuria
Tarpi Spai	Alkahtania
Gardim	Alnaftia
Mashuq	Ma'ashuq
Chal Agha	Aljauadia
Kurtpan	Tal A'auar
Garki Salma	Alsahia
Gari Vara	Tal Alsadq
Kishak	Alhamra
Bana Qasr	Ain Alkhadra

List of some Kurdish villages in Al-Jazira area that have their names Arabised:

Old name of village	New Arabised name
Abu Alsaun	Alsuan
Aluk Sharqi	Al-Alia Al-Sharqia
Aluk Gharbi	Al-Alia Al-Gharbia
Besis Foqani	Bistan
Abla Kabir	Abat
Arabkhat	Al-Uruba
Qabr Alsheukh Hasan	Al-Husainieh
Alkulia	Al-Zahira
Mazri	Al-Mazar
Briva	Al-Rifia
Baba Mahmoud	Mahmoudia
Bir Kivri	Bir Al-Hajar
Bir Kanis	Al-Kanz
Birki	Al-Bairak
Turba Kikia	Al-Rabia
Tel Bas	Al-Basma
Kirbishk	Tal Al-Attas
Kerkuand	Tal Al-Bulbul
Tel Kedish	Tal Husan
Tel Kabir	Amuria
Jirn Rash Tahtani	Jirn Tahtani
Jirn Rash Fauqani	Jirn Fauqani
Khararu	Nablus
Ta'luk	Jabal Al-Shaikh
Sabha Kikia	Al-Samah
Dilik	Al-Lua'
Sirana	Suais
Shirk	Shaduan
Afrit	Afra'
Qulia	Al-Lid
Haram Rash	Al-Ahram
Balak	Al-Damam

Birki Kuskan	Al-Baath
Kurdo	Tal Al-Laban
Jariba	Junia
Janaza	Al-Jinan
Dakuk	Zaiban
Dibak	Al-Dahma'
Shamuka	Al-Shama
Shur Sharqi	Shat Al-Arab Al-
Sharqi	
Sheikh Fatmi Sharqi	Fatima Al-Sharqia
Sheikh Fatmi Gharbi	Fatima Al-Gharbia
Qulan Tahtani	Julan Tahtani
Qulan Fauqani	Julan Fauqani
Kharba Qalaj	Al-Hazaba
Wahshik	Al-Waha
Gundik	Al-Wafa
Brozhi	Al-Najaf
Kasan	Al-Hama
Khrab Bazhar	Al-Qasemia
Ginjo	Al-Uruba
Bistasus	Wadi Al-Hijil
Lodga	Qalqilia
Wangi	Al-Husainiah
Girqahfik	Tal Al-Fukhar
Kharbi Jihua	Al-Abbasia
Si Girga	Beit Hanun
Chalga	Al-Qadisia
Muzalan	Al-Tali'a
Tel Gucek	Al-Ye'arubia
Dirik	Al-Malikia

List of some Kurdish farms in Al-Jazira area that had their names Arabised:

Farm's old name	Farms new name
Kishtu	Shahba
Dur Tiula	Al-Durra
Mumjan	Al-Marj
Qiri	Al-Azra
Kaju	Karma
Ozenja	Qirtaja
Qandaflia	Fand
Shafa Kahfa	Kahf
Buga	Baha
Tel Baram	Tal Al-Barim
Bir Alsabk	Al-Qasir
Um Hajra	Shahria
Sojana	Sugha
Khirba Jamu	Khrbat Abud
An Ziarat	Ziarat
Tel Hanish	Tal Hanan
Khirba Frisa	Khirbat Al-Firsan
Dabshu	Tal Al-Janb
Mazraat Alkarakir	Karbala
Tuejil	Tawakil
Tel Batrir Kabir	Tal Al-Bat
Julaq	Jiliq
Um Sheafa	Um Arabana
Khirba Qaraj	Al-Wa'ar
Albarazia	Al-Bariza
Khirba Albas	Basman
Sinqala	Wahran
Zorafa	Zarrafa
Kindik	Kinda
Khirab Kurt	Al-Wadi
Makhata	Tabaria
Dozk	Durra
Jadida Dakuk	Jadidat Ziban

Shur Gharbi
Farhia Kauri

Shat Al-Arab Al-Sharqi
Farhia Janubia

List of some Kurdish villages in Kobani area that had their names Arabised:

Village's old name	Villages new name
Kobania	Ain Al-Arab
Shiran	Arsalan Tash
Boban	Al-Azizia
Paparoshk	Salahaddin
Giri Sur	Tal Ahmar
Chirn	Al-Jirn Al-Asuad
Matin	Nabi Yusuf
Shikaft	Al-Maghara
Khuidan	Al-Mazra'a

List of some Kurdish villages in Afrin area that had their names Arabised:

Village's old name	Villages new name
Afrin	Uruba
Julqan	Jiliq
Qushman	Zhakhim
Faqiran	Al-Wadi Al-Akhzar
Jindirs	Tishrin
Sheikh Chiqli	Tal Al-Thaalib
Yelenqur	Rahmania
Bashki	Qabasin

Appendix 3

The Syria law deprived more than 150 thousand Kurdish people from Syrian nationality, and became foreigners in their country, and given the following red paper which says this person is foreigner:

الجمهورية العربية السورية
وزارة الداخلية
مفوضية الشؤون المدنية بمحافظة الحسكة

الرقم / ٤١٣ /
التاريخ ٢٠٠٠ / ١٠ / ٢

بيان قيد فردي خاص بالمسجلين في سجلات أجناب محافظة الحسكة

الاسم مفان
الكنية شريف
اسم الاب حسين
اسم الام فاطمة جناح

عمل وتاريخ الولادة: أوربية ١٩٩٤ / ٧ / ١٢ الجنس ذكور الرضعة العائلية عازبة
عمل ورقم القيد أجناب فامباني ٢ / ١٢ تاريخ التسجيل لم يرد له نتيجة الاصدار

لم يرد للمذكور قيد في سجلات العرب السوريين بمحافظة الحسكة نتيجة احصاء عام ١٩٦٢ ، وبناء على طلبه اعطيه بيان القيد للسجون اعلاه في سجلات اجناب تلك المحافظة .

في / / حد الموافق ١٠ / ٢ / ٢٠٠٠ م

الاسم لصاحب البيان
منظم البيان
الاسم عيسى احمد
التوقيع
امين السجل المدني في القطر
الاسم
التوقيع والخاتم

**First Working Group Meeting on Syria
Tuesday, 17 January 2006
at the Next Century Foundation,
4 Vincent Square, London**

Present:

1. Mr William Morris, Secretary General, The Next Century Foundation (Host)
2. Ms Victoria Barr, Business Monitor International
3. Ms Abigail Fielding Smith, IB Tauris Publishing
4. Mr Khalid Kishtainy, Sharq Al Awsat
5. Ms Muna Nashashibi, Arab Media Watch
6. Ms Dildar Kittani, Advisor to the KRG
7. Mr. Peter Dannheisser, Honorary Secretary of the Media Society
8. Mr. Tony Klug, Middle East Analyst
9. Mr Ayman Alloush, Syrian Embassy
10. Mr Ghayth Armanazi, British-Syrian Society
11. Dr Kaseem Mazrani, ANN
12. Mr Gamon Mclellan, Media Consultant & writer on Eastern Mediterranean and the Arab world
13. Ms Anita Grmelová, Third Secretary, Czech Embassy
14. Mr Neil Partrick, RUSI
15. Dr Jawad Mella, Western Kurdistan Association
16. Ms Claudia Shaffer, Literary Agent
17. Ms Jane Kinninmont, International Business Monitor
18. Mrs Veronica Morris, Next Century Foundation

19. Ms Gunnlaug Gudmundsdottir, Next Century Foundation
20. Miss Mialy Clark, Next Century Foundation
21. Mr Davis Lewin, Next Century Foundation
22. Mr Ahmed Dermish, Master's Student, SOAS

William Morris: Syria is in trouble. We would like to come to grips with one or two issues:

1. The Syrian opposition
2. Syria and Israel
3. Syria and Iraq
4. Syria and Lebanon, and
5. Disinformation.

The Syrian Opposition

Jawad Mella: There are lots of Kurds in Syria who have a very hard time and lots of problems. There has been talk about how the people of Syria and the Middle East have become victims of the Syrian regime, but there's no talk about the three million Kurdish victims of the Syrian regime.

William Morris: Is there any alliance between Kurds and Islamists, such as that which exists between the Kurdish opposition and Farid Ghadry?

Jawad Mella: No. Although the alliance between Kurds and Farid Ghadry has occurred

because the Kurds are victims, they will go to anyone who can help them.

William Morris: And Farid in America? I gather he has no support inside Syria.

Abigail Fielding Smith: My impression is that he's external opposition.

William Morris: How about the intellectuals on the left?

Abigail Fielding Smith: There is no-one with real power in the left/liberal intellectuals (neither does Abdul Halim Khaddam have any power). I got the impression that intellectuals there in Damascus that they don't see the point of making an effort to form a political party because such a party would not gain significant support. We met them in public places.

William Morris: I got the impression that Rifat doesn't see himself as part of the opposition, what does everybody else think?

Jawad Mella: I met Rifat Al Assad's son who told me that they stop to be against the Syrian regime because they will lose the power in Syria and the regime will fall in the hands of a third party.

Khalid Kishtainy: Mr. Jawad Mella said that the Kurds in Syria 3 million, I would like to know the Syrian official figures regarding the Kurds?

Ayman Alloush: The Kurds in Syria between 1.5 million to 2.5 million.

Jawad Mella: Syria says that Israel is a racist regime, but in Israel the Arabs have hundreds of schools for Arabic language but in Syria there is no one single school in Kurdish language in Syria for millions of Kurds.

Ayman Alloush: I would like to refer back to what Jawad was saying about the hardship suffered by the Kurds. In Syria there are fifty Kurds in the Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, so it is not accurate to say they have no access at all to government. We have two former Prime Ministers who were Kurdish. Syria has a problem with Kurds, but they are involved in all aspects of life.

Jawad Mella: Saddam Husein the former Iraqi president had also a Kurd as vice president of Iraq but hit the Kurds by chemical weapons. As well Dr Mohammed Ma'shouq Al Khaznawi, the Kurdish leader in Syria was kidnapped in Damascus and tortured to death by the Syrian regime. That was never reported and there was no UN investigation about this crime as the UN investigation for Rafiq Al Hariri.

Ayman Alloush: There were some Kurds who stayed without nationality, they don't have the right to learn at school, but we support their right to be Syrian.

William Morris: There is an important issue with regard to the census of Kurds in Syria.

Jawad Mella: The Kurds in Syria have the Syrian nationality since Syria was founded, but

the Syrian regime regarding the census of 1962 deprived the Kurds from this right, one of them, the chief of staff in the Syrian Army General Taufiq Nizameddin in 1958, became a foreigner in his country since 1962.

William Morris: The '62 census issue with the Kurds will also be in our report.

Syria and Iraq

William Morris: On to the next topic, Syria and Iraq. There's the issue of infiltration at the border into Iraq, the US refusing joint patrols and thereby making the controlling of the border more difficult. What's your impression? There are a lot of Baathists in Syria and that itself remains an issue to beat Syria with. In the early days of the resistance in Iraq after the liberation people came in from Syria, but that seems to have ended.

Dildar Kittani: I have heard reports about a stream of infiltrators through Syria, through Rabiati. The other issue people worry about is Baathists still in Syria. I know a few of them. They were with Saddam and are wanted by the new regime. Whatever terrorists infiltrate from Iran they ignore. They just say it's Syria. There are quite many Baathists in Syria as the Baath party is still in power in Syria.

Dildar Kittani: But what about those who ran to Syria after the Allied attack on Iraq, not before?

Ayman Alloush: Syria like so many other countries thinks the war on Iraq is illegal.

Khalid Kishtainy: Syria has been a refuge for Iraqis for a long time. Under Saddam the PUK, KDP were all formed in Syria, it has always been a refuge for the opposition, they are all still there.

Ayman Alloush: Talabani, the President, was there.

Dildar Kittani: When people stand outside government they're in a certain position. The people who ran away now are those who tortured the Kurds. Why is Syria keeping Baathists who tortured others now?

Khalid Kishtainy: There were many different people living there for different reasons. Anyone guilty of torturing Kurds is safe in Syria.

Ayman Alloush: If Syria asked France and Germany for people there who face corruption and terrorist charges in Syria, will they get them back? It happens everywhere. It is all a political game.

Jawad Mella: All sorts of extremists who are against democracy live in Damascus. The Syrian regime settled 100,000 Syrians in Lebanon.

Ayman Alloush: No, they weren't transferred, they moved there. Lebanese people don't stay in hotels when they visit Syria, they stay with their families.

Jawad Mella: There is no powerful opposition in Syria, because Syria has a very strong intelligence service, which was able to cut the Syrian Communist Party into four parts and the Kurdish movement into 20 parties.

William Morris: We will prepare two working papers, one for Syrians and one for the US. We'll draft them publicly on the ways forward on Syrian issues.

Jawad Mella: I would like to give the Syrian regime the advice, to announce federalism for the Kurds in Syria before the US army comes, the Syrian regime treats the Kurds very badly, and this treatment created 3 million American soldiers in Syria, namely the Kurds in Syria.

SYRIA

Amnesty International's campaign to stop torture and ill-treatment in the 'war on terror'

Human rights are under threat. The absolute ban on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment – one of the most universally accepted human rights – is being undermined. In the “war on terror”, governments are not only using torture and ill-treatment, they are seeking to justify it. They argue that interrogation methods which amount to torture or ill-treatment, and detention conditions which constitute ill-treatment, are both justifiable and necessary.

This is a crisis in the struggle to eliminate torture and ill-treatment, and we are therefore redoubling our efforts. We are urging the widest possible network of people to join us in reasserting the absolute ban on torture and ill-treatment, including methods currently being described as “coercive interrogation”. No euphemisms can justify the unjustifiable. We want to stop the torture and ill-treatment that is being inflicted in the “war on terror”. We also want the prohibition on such brutal treatment to emerge all the stronger from our campaign. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in Syria

Torture and ill-treatment are widespread in Syrian detention and investigation centres, particularly during pre-trial detention. The risk of torture and ill-treatment is increased during periods of incommunicado detention. Torture

and ill-treatment are used against political suspects and ordinary criminal suspects, women and men, the elderly and children. Over the years, Amnesty International has documented about 40 different methods of torture and ill-treatment used against detainees in Syria. “Confessions” extracted under duress are systematically used as evidence in Syrian courts, and the defendants’ claims of torture or ill-treatment are almost never investigated. In 2004 at least nine people died reportedly as a result of torture and ill-treatment while in custody.

Amnesty International documented the cases of more than 20 Syrian Kurdish children, aged between 14 and 17, who were reportedly tortured and ill-treated while detained for over three months in 2004. The children were allegedly beaten with electric cables, had their heads banged together, and were ordered to strip almost naked under threat of being beaten. They were also given electric shocks to their hands and feet and sensitive parts of the body, had their toe-nails pulled out; and were beaten with rifle butts.

Other methods of torture or ill-treatment systematically used in Syria include: the *dulab* (the tyre), whereby the victim is forced into a car tyre, which may be suspended, and beaten with cables, bamboo sticks or whips; the “German Chair”, whereby the victim is strapped to a metal chair with moving parts in which the backrest is lowered away from the body causing hyperextension of the spine and

severe pressure on the victim's neck and limbs; and the "frame", whereby the victim's limbs are tied to a large metal frame and the victim is then beaten. Detainees are also given electric shocks to various parts of the body and detained in extremely poor and unhygienic conditions, such as in tiny, filthy, insect-infested grave-like cells.

His Excellency Tony Blair
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

London 24th October 2005

Dear Mr. Blair

The report of Detlev Mehlis, the international judge appointed by the UN and the public attorney of Berlin, presented to Mr Kofi Annan, is very similar in its condemnation of the Baathist regime of Syria to the condemnation of the Baathist regime of Iraq after its occupation of Kuwait, and it is much like the last straw that broke the camel's back.

Fact is the crimes of the Iraqi regime were not uncovered to the world until after its occupation of Kuwait; these crimes were committed against the Iraqi, Kurdish and Iranian peoples and in short made the Iraqi regime the enemy number one of humanity, despite the fact that the Iraqi regime up to its occupation of Kuwait was enjoying the support of the west and the east as well as the Arabic and Islamic support. After the occupation of Kuwait it was no longer possible to hide its crimes. It was only then that for the first time the mass graves of the Kurds and Arabs killed by the Iraqi regime were uncovered to reveal one of the most

racist, bloody and despotic regimes of the world.

It is the same now for the Syrian regime that is no less criminal than the Iraqi regime, and the Mehlis report that condemns the Syrian regime for the assassination of the former president of Lebanon Rafiq El-Hariri without doubt will have implications no less than the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq. For the Mehlis report has an international weight as it was compiled by the demand of the UN, and thus it will uncover all the crimes committed by the Syrian regime against all those who differed in their opinions, leaders and intellectuals all over the world ,and especially the Lebanese that we can mention: Kemal Junbulat, Bashir El-Jumaeel, René Muawadh, George Hawi, Elias El-Murr and Samir El-Qasseer. This also means that the Mehlis report will make the Syrian question an international one, and Syria is no longer a hostage of the Baath decisions. Its results shall open the door for uncovering all crimes and for the Syrian people and the Kurdish people in Western Kurdistan to determine their own destiny and that of their countries according to international norms and the UN charter that clearly states that all the peoples of the world have the right of self determination.

The cowardly Syrian regime does not even dare to speak about its rights to regain parts of Askandaruna and Golan, while it sent its planes and tanks against the Kurdish uprising in Western Kurdistan in the towns of Hasaka, Qamishli, Amuda, Derik, Kobani, Afrin and Aleppo on 12-3-2004, or killed the people of Hama and Tadmur prison in the beginning of the eighties, or is terrorising the Jordanian

farmers on the Syrian-Jordanian borders recently, in addition to recruiting and training terrorists and sending them to commit terrorist acts in Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait as well as other Gulf states, to kill the innocent.

The Nazi Syrian regime has killed, injured and imprisoned thousands of Kurds in Western Kurdistan without any scruples. First it burned 400 Kurdish children to death in the Amuda cinema in 1960, and then burned 75 Kurds in Hasaka Central Prison in 1993, in addition to mass murder of the Kurds in the streets during the uprising of March 2004 or in prisons under barbaric torture. The Syrian racist regime has also assassinated several Kurdish leaders such as the great Kurdish leader prince Jaladat Baderkhan in 1952 by an explosion of a water tank over his head to make it as an accident, up until the assassination of the Kurdish leader and scholar, the martyr Dr Muhammad Mashuq Khaznawi after his arrest and barbaric torture on 30-5-2005. We demand an international investigation into all these crimes so that they cannot be repeated, and demand international protection of the Kurdish people in Western Kurdistan similar to the protection of Southern Kurdistan since 1991 up to the fall of Saddam's regime.

It was a long dark night for the peoples of the region, but the time is ripe and very near to get rid of the fascist Baathist nightmare for ever.

Yours truly,

Dr Jawad Mella

Western Kurdistan Association



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

20th June, 2006

Dear Dr. Mella,

The Queen has asked me to thank you for your letter and enclosures of 6th April, and I apologise for the delay in replying. Due to the high volume of mail received in recent weeks, correspondence has been dealt with in strict date order.

Careful note has been taken of your comments regarding the Kurdish population in Syria.

As a constitutional Sovereign, Her Majesty acts on the advice of her Ministers, and I have, therefore, been instructed to send your letter to the Right Honourable Margaret Beckett, MP, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, so that she may know of your approach to The Queen on this matter and may consider the points you raise.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Sonia Bonici
Senior Correspondence Officer

Dr. Jawad Mella.

**Letter of Her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth II to
Dr Jawad Mella regarding the Syrian Kurds**



27 September 2005

Dr Jawad Mella
Western Kurdistan Government in Exile
Palingswick House
241 King Street
London
W6 9LP

Near East Team
Arab/Israel North Africa Group
Room W80
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH
Tel: 020 7088 3416
Fax: 020 7088 2462
E-mail: matt.proctor@fcdo.gov.uk

Dear Dr Mella,

Thank you for your letters of 29 April, 2 June and 9 June to the Prime Minister about the treatment of Kurdish people in Syria. I have been asked to reply and I apologise for the delay in doing so.

Whilst we welcome the recent release of Kurdish detainees by Syria, we have a number of serious concerns about Syria's human rights record, in particular the continued practices of arbitrary arrests, unfair trials, the detention of political prisoners and torture which run contrary to international human rights norms. We welcome President Asad's commitment to multi-party elections and hope that the Ba'ath Regional Congress on 6-9 June will generate further momentum for political reform. We regularly raise our concerns about Syria's human rights record both bilaterally and through the European Union.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Proctor

Matt Proctor
Lebanon and Syria Desk Officer

Letter of the British Foreign Office to Dr Jawad Mella regarding the Syrian Kurds

British Prime Minister welcomes Dr Jawad Mella

Exclusively for Media: On 29/04/2005 British Prime Minister has welcomed Dr Jawad Mella President of Western Kurdistan Government,

The meeting that took place in London, the capital of the United Kingdom, Dr Jawad Mella discussed issues regarding the Kurdistan region in general and Western Kurdistan



particularly and the latest genocide and massacre of the Kurds in the city of Qamishlo by the Syrian regime. He also handed a Kurdistan flag and an English version of his book and another one of Professor Jemal Nebez's book as a present to the British PM.

Dr Jawad Mella informed Mr Blair in the meeting, despite the fact of bombardment of Halabja by chemical gas, which by itself is the best evidence of Saddam's weapon of mass destruction, the British public had unfortunately still criticized him and his government for liberating Iraq, and toppling Saddam's regime. This was only because the multinational force in Iraq could not find any weapon of mass destruction, even though it is well known to the whole world who killed and buried alive innocent people in the mass graves and the systematic genocide of the Kurds.

Mr Blair and Dr Mella went further and discussed many significant issues together with the latest developments in Kurdistan region and the two had an important exchange of views.

Dr Mella thanked Mr Blair for his crucial role “ I on behalf of the Kurdish community in the UK and Kurds in Kurdistan thank you and President Bush for your unforgettable and a moral action for liberating Iraq for Iraqis, because if it was not for you, we would have always been ruled by a bloodthirsty dictator, in return Mr Blair made it clear and expressed his delight at receiving Kurdistan’s Flag, and the valuable views and position of Dr Jawad Mella. Mr Blair also said he is extremely glad to hear the concerns of Dr Jawad Mella regarding Syrian Kurdistan.

At the end, Mr Blair added and said “We are closely following developments in the region and are well informed about the Kurdish position and are working hard to help the Kurds in every way we can”. Dr Jawad Mella on the other hand described the talks as constructive, positive and a starting point for further improvement in mutual relations and common interests.

I, Sipan Osman, hereby certify that this is a true translation into English from Kurdish of the above newspaper article issue 189 page 1 date: 3.5.05 at www.yndk.com, from Hawler the capital of Southern Kurdistan (Iraqi Kurdistan).

**Ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon,
president of the Conference on Democracy &
Freedom in Syria & Kurdish Human and National
Rights,
dear participants in this conference,
dear members of different Kurdish
organisations,
dear participants from Syria and other
countries,**

Today is the 2nd anniversary of the great Kurdish uprising in Western Kurdistan. But this uprising will continue until we gain complete freedom from the dictatorship and chauvinist policy of the Syrian Baath party.

Today, two years after our great uprising,
today after 25 years in exile outside Kurdistan and far from my nation and family,
today after long years of suffering without anybody listening to our cause,
the cause of freedom, democracy and justice,
finally, thank God, today we have this Conference on Democracy & Freedom in Syria & the Kurdish Human and National Rights, here in the building of the Senate of the USA.

I would like to thank you all for your concern about the Kurdish people's rights and democracy,
I would like to ask all participants, let's work together to build a better future for all nations and for our Kurdish people in Syria who needs more support than any other nation.

I would like to ask all Kurdish personalities and organisations to establish one centre or one front to act on behalf of the Kurdish people in Western

Kurdistan to gain the Kurdish people's rights, democracy and freedom.

Our Satellite Radio, Rojava Kurdistan, is broadcasting its programmes in five languages and 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, since 11th March 2005, to educate the Kurdish people in Syria, to use their national and democratic rights and their voice to be heard, and from today this satellite radio is yours as well.

We are now in the 21st century, and still nobody has asked the Kurdish people what they want and which are their problems or needs.

Today let's raise together the voice of Kurdish people in democratic and civilized ways, through the UN and international law, which allow all nations to use democratic ways to gain their rights.

A public referendum is one of these ways, so in this conference we ask all of you to issue a statement, to be signed by all Kurdish and Syrian organisations, that the Kurdish people are entitled to take part in a public referendum about their freedom and political self-destination.

Thank you very much.

Dr. Jawad Mella

13th March 2006

Announcement

To/ international public opinion

London 30/10/05

In the name of Kurdish people I would like to express my condemn the statement of the Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmedi Najad regarding wiping Israel from the map as it was condemned by the majority of the leaders of the world.

Kurdistan is ten times bigger in area than Israel, but it has been practically, not just in words, wiped out from the geographical map long time ago without anyone condemning this abhorring crime.

I once received two lists from the UN, on my demand:

The first was of about 200 members of the UN recognised as states.

The second was of 16 peoples still under occupation.

I did not find Kurdistan in either of the lists, not even as an occupied country. This means that Kurdistan has been wiped out from the map or it is among those homelands that have been stolen.

At the end of the World War II, Germany was divided, but after 45 years it was reunited again. However, Kurdistan was divided more than 80 years ago, although the Kurdish people never occupied other peoples' lands and did not murder anyone to be punished in this unjust way.

I hope the time is now appropriate for Kurdistan to become united and independent again and end this unbearable situation. With this the international community would gain a

new democratic state in the Middle East adopting a western system and opposing international terrorism, carrying the name of the State of Kurdistan.

Since the glorious Kurdish uprising in Western Kurdistan (Syrian Kurdistan) of 12 March 2004, the Kurdish people are facing a war of genocide.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the Syrian regime has been occupying Western Kurdistan for more than 80 years and I find that the new international situation is most appropriate for making right the unjust and barbaric treatment by the international community in regard of the Kurdish people and their homeland Kurdistan since the beginning of the last century. I would like to ask all our friends in the world to support the Western Kurdistan Government in order to carry out a referendum for the Kurdish people in Western Kurdistan occupied by Syria.

It is necessary to create a safe haven for the Kurdish people in Western Kurdistan to protect them from mass murder committed by one of the most oppressive, terrorist and racist regimes in the Middle East, the Syrian regime.

It is necessary to investigate issues of arresting 9000 Kurds since the Kurdish uprising and their subjection to murderous torture as it happened to the Kurdish leader, the martyr Dr Muhammad Ma'shuq Khaznawi who was kidnapped by the Syrian regime and tortured to death on 30-5-2005, which is a crime not less than the assassination of the former Lebanese president, the martyr Rafiq El-Hariri.

Yours truly,

Dr Jawad Mella

Dear President George Bush,

On behalf of myself, the Kurdistan people, the Kurdish masses and the Kurdish and non Kurdish organisations allied with us, I send you greetings and respect and express some fears regarding a dark future for your policies in the Middle East:

- 1- After liberation of Iraq by your armies and the allied forces you delivered the power to one of your worst enemies in the world, the Shiites who regard you as the greatest Satan.
- 2- You have being very lenient with the question of the Iranian nuclear affair to the extent that Iran and its President Mahmoud Ahmadi Nejat are talking as if they are the biggest superpower in the world and challenging you and the whole West.
- 3- Your lenient policy towards the Syrian Alawite regime which assassinated the former Lebanese President Rafiq El-Hariri along with other Syrian, Lebanese and Kurdish personalities such as Dr Muhammad Ma'shuq Khaznawi, has made this regime even more extreme in its support for terrorist movements.
- 4- Today the Shiite Hezbollah in Lebanon is stronger than the Lebanese government.
- 5- The same mentioned policies brought a terrorist organisation such as Hamas to power in Palestine.
- 6- The same factors also made Turkey more and more Islamist and farther from being an ally to the West, and to refuse American suggestions such as recently

declining an American base on the Black Sea.

- 7- I think that the axis of evil is getting more powerful and spread in the Middle East, and today with your policies it covers the Shiite Iran and Iraq to the Alawite Syria, the Lebanon of Hezbollah, and Palestine of Hamas. This axis is allied with Russia and China, and other countries. The fact that countries like Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states have more than 40% population of Shiites makes me fearful that with support of the axis of evil they would overthrow the regimes there. Also the Islamists are carrying out terrorist acts in countries allied to you to change their regimes and make them satellites for the axis of evil as the recent explosions in Egypt show.
- 8- On the other hand there is a force in the Middle East that represents a huge population of people that have been deprived for the past century from any kind of national, democratic and human liberties. This force we think is your ally and a part of the axis of good in the Middle East, this force is that of the Kurdish people with the population of 40 million that awaits your support to be your ally against the axis of evil because it is the only force in the area with the potential for understanding democracy and leaving behind the tribal relations that dominate the Middle East.
- 9- Probably you are depending on some Kurds, but unfortunately the ones you

depend on are working towards keeping the Kurdish people as a hostage for the axis of evil within the artificially created states of the area and are still prisoners of their own tribal affiliations.

- 10- The Kurdish mass uprising in Southern Kurdistan (Iraq), which was called for by President George Bush in 1991 managed within few hours to liberate all the Kurdish areas including Kirkuk from Saddam Hussein's control, but the Kurds you are allied with gave Kirkuk back to the central government.
- 11- The Kurdish mass uprising in Western Kurdistan (Syria) in 2004 managed in a matter of hours to burn down 35 governmental buildings in the town of Qamishli, burned the Syrian flag, destroyed statues of President Asad and raised the flag of Kurdistan. All this happened while Asad was in power and without any foreign support as in Iraq. However, the Kurdish organisations helped the Syrian government to stop the uprising and contain it.
- 12- There was also a massive uprising in Eastern Kurdistan (Iran) in 2004 and Northern Kurdistan (Turkey) is an area of continuous disturbances.
- 13- Despite of all these Kurdish uprisings against the axis of evil that called upon you asking when Babi Azad is going to come and liberate us, which means "father of freedom" that is the nickname given to George Bush, nevertheless your administration didn't move a finger to help them as if you want to support

financially those Kurds who want to keep the 40 million Kurds within the territories of the axis of evil states that is against your own interests.

- 14- The Greater Kurdistan extends from the Caspian Sea, Black Sea, Caucasus and Mediterranean to the Persian Gulf and it is a rich strategic area that its people belong to Indo-European people and ready to become your real ally and forever.
- 15- It is ironic that the whole world was for the liberation of Kuwait from the Iraqi occupation (which was a great humanitarian cause) despite the fact that people of Kuwait are very close to the Iraqis in their language, traditions and culture. However, no one is talking about liberating the Kurds of Kurdistan who are totally different in their language, tradition and culture from Iraqi occupation.

We are aware that politics is all about financial interests, and your current policy is against any nation building, but the riches and the oil of Kurdistan is not in the hands of the Kurds right now, and it's in the hands of their enemies, and it looks like you depend on the enemy sources also for your information regarding the Kurds. That is why I am asking you to try and contact the real people who are the owners of the cause.

Please accept my best wishes

Yours truly,

Dr Jawad Mella

29th April 2006

The president Barzani in a meeting in London and his discussion with Dr Jawad Mella:

On 30 - 10 - 2005 in a mass meeting in London organised for Mr Masoud Barzani, in which he discussed the general state of affairs in the presence of around a thousand people, Mr Masoud asked at the end of the meeting for questions. Dr Jawad Mella, president of the Western Kurdistan was present and asked the following question (after introducing himself according to the set rules):

My name, Jawad Mella, president of the Western Kurdistan (loud applause), I have a lot of criticism, but few days ago I saw you with president George Bush who was addressing you as Mr President, i.e. president of Kurdistan, then I forgot my criticism and felt that the state of Kurdistan has been established in that moment and in my happiness I was not able to sleep for the past two days.

The Mehlis report has been issued condemning Syria for the assassination of the former president of Lebanon El-Hariri during the same time as your meeting with President Bush.

Did President Bush tell you anything regarding the liberation of Syria and Syrian Kurdistan, or establishing a Kurdish government and parliament in Western Kurdistan as it is the case in Southern Kurdistan? President Barzani answered: no we did not discuss Syria or Syrian Kurdistan. Then President Barzani smiled and said: even if we had discussed the subject is it possible to say that openly in front

of such a huge audience? A loud applause erupted and the discussion ended with Dr Mella thanks.

It was in Kurdish language and in the presence of the head of the Southern Kurdistan government Mr Nechirvan Barzani, Dr Barham Saleh, Dr Fuad Hussein and others.

**To the masses of our heroic Kurdish people in Western Kurdistan
We wish a happy anniversary of Newroz and uprising on the path of liberty and independence**

The Western Kurdistan Government was invited by the Kurdish Association in the United States for a conference in the American Congress in Washington under the banner of: The human and national rights of the Kurdish people in Western Kurdistan and democracy in Syria.

Dr Jawad Mella attended the conference representing the Western Kurdistan alongside Mr Sherko Zein Aloush, Secretary of the Western Kurdistan Association and other Kurdish parties and personalities in order to find a common central reference point for the Kurdish people in Western Kurdistan. All of the participants agreed on points of common agenda and interest, and to avoid the differences as much as possible. Despite all the shortcomings, intimidations and ignoring of important, basic and strategic issues, the Western Kurdistan decided prior to attending

the conference to open a new chapter with all the Kurdish forces during these new times. Some sides directed acute and insulting speech to others and others withdrew from the conference for the same reasons, but the Western Kurdistan worked to the end and in a positive way for the success of the conference and for the first time in the history of the American Congress, the Western Kurdistan managed to put forward the following points:

- 1- As there was no Kurdistan flag in the hall of the American Congress, Mr Sherko Zein Aloush, Secretary of the Western Kurdistan Association in London brought a Kurdistan flag and put it on the main stand so that the gathering would not be without any nationalist symbolism without the Kurdistan flag that represents all aspects of the Kurdish identity and personality.
- 2- Dr Jawad Mella, representing the Western Kurdistan entered the American Congress hall wearing the Kurdish national costume for the first time in the history of the American Congress.
- 3- Dr Jawad Mella, representing the Western Kurdistan asked the international community in his English language speech to the conference to approve a general referendum for the Kurdish people for their right of self determination.
- 4- He also demanded a common central authority for the Kurdish people in Western Kurdistan.

- 5- He also declared the Rojava Radio to be in the service of the Kurdish people's unity in Western Kurdistan.

Finally the conference decided to hold another conference in Belgium to form a national congress for the Western Kurdistan. For the follow up of these issues a preparation committee was elected from the Kurdish parties and personalities and a representative of the Western Kurdistan.

Long live Kurdistan free and independent.

13-3-2006

Announcement by the Western Kurdistan regarding the Brussels congress

The first congress of the Kurdish people in Western Kurdistan was held in the building of the American Congress in Washington on 12/3/2006 in which it was suggested to hold a second congress inside the European Parliament in Brussels in Belgium and it was held on 27-29 May 2006 with 150 personalities and representatives attending to announce the formation of a Kurdistan Council that was declared after studying and discussing the charter and the internal guidelines, which were approved by democratic voting.

The participants of the congress elected a Kurdistan Council of 37 members with some places left empty for the Kurdish parties that did not attend. The Council elected an executive committee of 9 members by direct elections then a leadership committee of 3 was elected who are: Dr Jawad Mella the President of the Western Kurdistan, Dr Tawfiq Hamdush

the leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party - Syria and Dr Sherko Abbas the president of the Kurdish Association in America.

Dr Ismet Sharif Wanly was elected as an honorary president together with five honorary members who are Asaad Xelani, Fawzi Atroushi, Salam Jaziri, Mousa Kaval, Ali Haj Hussein.

Several other well-known Kurdish personalities from other parts of Kurdistan and European countries participated such as: Abdulmalik Furat the grandson of Sheik Saeed Piran, Sharafaddin Alchi the former minister, Ali Gazi the son of Qazi Muhammad the President of the Kurdistan Republic, Haseeb Qablan the Lawyer, Dr Asaad Xelani the former president of the Kurdish National Congress in North America, Bairam Ayaz the leading member of the Kurdistan Democratic Party - Turkey, Salam Jaziri from the Kurdish Federation of Sweden, Dr Ismet Sharif Wanly, Fawzi Atroushi the representative of the Kurdistan Democratic Party - Iraq, Feleknas Uca the member of the European Parliament, Harriet Montgomery researcher on the Syrian Kurds causes and others...

The institutions and organisations from Western Kurdistan that participated in the congress: Western Kurdistan under the leadership of Dr Jawad Mella, the representative of the Kurdish Future Current, Dr Haibat Abu Halabja, Kurdish Freedom Party, the Kurdish Progressive Democratic Party under the leadership of Mr Aziz Dawoud, Kurdistan Democratic Changes Movement, Democratic Union Party, Kurdistan Truth Party under the leadership of Mr Nouri Brimo,

Kurdistan Democratic Party - Syria, Kurdish Yeketi Party, the Civilization and Democracy Party under the leadership of Mr Hasso Americo, the Democratic Ezidi Party under the leadership of Mr Karim Ajam, the Solidarity Council - Syrian Kurdistan, the Kurdish Association in America, the Ezidi Association of Tirpasipie, the Syrian Kurds Associations in Berlin, UK, Italy and others.

The congress was covered by the media through the Kurdistan Rojava Radio, Kurdistan TV and several Internet sites.

The congress was opened by a minute silence for the martyrs of the 2004 glorious uprising and martyrs of Kurdistan under the flag of Kurdistan and it ended its works in the European Parliament with the Kurdish national anthem Ay Raqib.

5th June 2006

Announcement regarding the arrest of the famous Syrian political activist Mr Fateh Jamous

The famous Syrian political activist Mr Fateh Jamous who spent 18 years of his life inside Syrian prisons because of the difference of his political views from those of the Syrian racist and dictatorial regime. He was originally sentence to 15 years imprisonment. However, the Syrian Intelligence services kept him for an additional 3 years without trial and was released only in 2000. Nevertheless Mr Fateh Jamous did not stop his activities defending democracy and human rights achieving some

progress in his mission by the signing of the Damascus Announcement together with the Syrian political parties including the Baath Party. When I criticised the Damascus Announcement Mr Fateh told me that you are right and I am with you that the Damascus announcement does not represent all our ambitions but it is just a step that can develop.. On this basis the Syrian regime allowed for the first time Mr Fateh Jamous to travel outside Syria as he visited several European countries during April 2006 among which was the UK where he visited me at the headquarters of the Western Kurdistan in London on 18/4/2006. He told me while shaking my hand warmly: I have heard a lot about you and long time ago and I am very anxious to meet you and I want to have a discussion with you as I am a Syrian citizen with democratic tendencies and you as a person with large Kurdish ambitions for the Kurds in Syria. We agreed to record the conversation and transmit it on the Rojava Kurdistan Radio. It was a nice discussion for more than an hour and a half each of us defending our views in a democratic way without any destructive criticism, just stating our views frankly and the interview was aired every day for a month on the Rojava Radio for the benefit of all the sides Kurds and Arabs. As a result of this meeting and when Mr Fateh Jamous went back to Syria on 1/5/2006 he was arrested by the Syrian Intelligence in the airport and he is still in detention. Moreover when some Arabs in Syria demanded the release of Mr Fateh Jamous, they were also arrested among them, Solicitor Anwar Al-Buni and Mr Michel Kilo and other supporters of democracy

in Syria. I hereby demand their release together with all the political detainees in Syria Kurds or Arabs. I also issued a request in English to all international organisations concerned with the human rights such as the UN and Amnesty International.

The essence of the matter is that personalities such as Mr Fateh Jamous who defend their homeland Syria and who is in alliance with the Baath party since the signing of the Damascus Announcement could not prevent him since his visit to me in the headquarters of the Western Kurdistan and his speech on the satellite radio of Western Kurdistan made the Syrian regime unnerved and this means that we are on the right path. I will print our discussion and translate it to Kurdish and English for its importance in this time of falling of dictatorships and freedom of peoples.

Long live Kurdistan and the just struggle of the Kurdish people for its just national rights.

Dr. Jawad Mella

16-6-2006

The Kurdish foreigners ID in Syria



The Syrian Kurds demonstration in front of the Syrian Embassy to remember Dr Mohamed Mashouq Al-Khaznawi and to condemn the Syria regime for his crimes against the Kurdish people in Syria





**Apo Osman Sabri, the Great Kurdish leader
in Western Kurdistan 1905-1993**



**One million Kurds has a demonstration with the
funeral of Dr Mohamed Mashouq Al-Khaznawi in
Western Kurdistan (Syrian Kurdistan).**



**Kurdish meeting regarding the Kurdish leader
Dr Mohamed Mashouq Al-Khaznawi in London**



**Kurdish meeting regarding the Kurdish leader Dr
Mohamed Mashouq Al-Khaznawi in Qamishli-
Western Kurdistan**



Councillor Charlie Treloggan, Mayor of Hammersmith-London and Dr. Jawad Mella, at AGM, on 30th July 2005





**The Syrian Kurds conference at the USA Congress–
Washington DC on 12-13 March 2006, Dr Jawad Mella,
participated with Kurdistan Flag and Kurdish
traditional cloths.**





London- Newroz, the Kurdish New Year celebration by Western Kurdistan Association, with participation hundreds of Kurdish and British personalities as Mr. Robert Evans MEP





Brussel, 29/5/2006: Dr Jawad Mella President of Western Kurdistan at the European Parliament, with participation of Kurdish and Europeans personalities as Mrs. Feleknas Uca MEP, which she received Kurdistan Flag with warm thanks from Jawad Mella.





**Mr. Sherko Zen-Aloush, Mr. Abdulbaqi Yousef,
Dr. Jawad Mella, Dr Ismet Shariff Wanly and
Mr Hoshang Osman Sabri at the Syrian Kurds'
Brussels Conference on 27-29/5/2006**



**The Mayor of London Ken Livingston between
Dr. Jawad Mella, Mr. Dilkes Murad
and Mr Sherko Zen Aloush**



On 25/6/2003 about 200 Kurdish children of those registered as foreigners participated in a peaceful demonstration in front of the UNICEF office in Damascus

Celal Ibrahim
(15, Efrin)



Feride Ehmed
(Efrin)



Nuri M. Ibrahim Paşa
(Serê Kaniyê)



Ciwan Xorşid
(18, Qamişlo)



Osman Hisên Dalini
(?)



Keyri Cindó
(Amûdê)



Pictures of some Kurds ages 15-70 years old been shot by the Syrian regime in the streets of Kurdish cities in western Kurdistan on 12-13 March 2004



Kurdistan National Flag



The Kurdish Empire Emblem 700BC



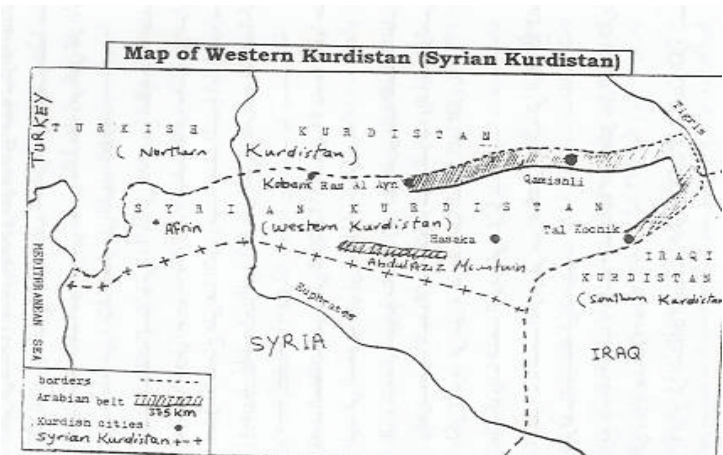
Emblem of Western Kurdistan



Emblem of Rojava TV & Radio



Kurdistan Map



Western Kurdistan map and the Arabian Belt

Western Kurdistan Association- London

Mission :

The main aim and purpose of the Western Kurdistan Association is to work with refugees from Kurdistan who have recently arrived in the UK, or have been settled here for a while. In this capacity we mainly provide interpreting and translation support, assistance in asylum and immigration affairs, help them in gaining access to local services, including legal advice and information, education and health care. We also do a large amount of work in the area of housing, and help from the social services.

Activities :

Different kind of activities and services for Kurdish refugees, courses of IT, Languages, film making for young people, sport as football club etc.

Hold educational and social event and print reports and books on different issues regarding the Kurds and their history and culture.

Geographical Area : London-Hammersmith

Western Kurdistan Association

established: 1997

Company No: 3454407

Charity No: 1066236