

The Speech of H. E. Ambassador Dr. Hussain Al-Ameri on the Anniversary of the Bombing of the City Halabja

The Iraqi embassy in coordination and cooperation with the Kurdistan Regional Representation in Sweden celebrated the memorial service recalling the martyrs of the city of Halabja in Iraqi Cultural Centre in Stockholm on Wednesday 6th March, 2013.

The Iraqi Ambassador H. E. Dr. Hussein Al-Ameri made speech on this painful remembrance day of striking Halabja City with chemical bombs by the followers of the extinct Saddam regime.

This friendly city that has been bombarded during the Iraqi-Iranian war caused the death of 5000 people within seconds.

When we open the crime records of Saddam Baathist former regime against the Kurdish and other Iraqi people, it will reveal many tragic crimes for us.

After the previous regime collapsed in 2003 in Baghdad, all the genocide crimes like Anfal and chemical bombardment, left behind mass graves of more than 73 000 martyrs, and 182 000 of Anfal victims that have no grave or trace.

Five thousands of the victims were killed by cold blood within seconds in Halabja, as the city was bombarded with chemical bombs. In addition to 300 000 Iraqis that were killed in the magnificent uprising in 1991 at the Iraqi southern provinces.

Thousands of people were put in prisons and disappeared afterwards. Many Muslims, Christians and Jewish people were killed. Many members of Kurdish political and Arabic parties, whether religious or liberal parties in addition to communist party, were killed.

In 1991 during the uprising, 30 missiles and thousands of internationally prohibited Cluster Bombs were used to strike Najaf city by Saddam regime military followers.

Today we are remembering the chemical bombardment of Halabja.

The day of March 6, 1988 is considered a black day in the recent history of Iraq. I was during that period of time completing my PhD studies in Germany, as I kept during that day observing the 8 pm news on the First German Channel “ARD” which I usually was keen on watching it.

The news presenter appeared trembled, as he commented that chemical bombs were dropped on one of the Iraqi cities “(*Um himmels Willen*), *Chemische Waffen wurde in Iraq verwendet, Unglaublich*”. He couldn’t believe his eyes, and he said we will introduce to you the details. The pictures of the victims were shown and accusations were exchanged between leaders of both Iraqi and Iranian armies.

At that time, I was skeptical and I said to myself: an Iraqi cannot hit and kill another Iraqi with a chemical bomb, and I couldn’t believe that the Iraqis are the ones who hit Halabja, although the confirmation of international news agencies and the evidence that men of Saddam were the ones who dropped the bombs. No rational human being can believe what has happened to these people by one of its citizens, until the confession of Ali Hussain Almajeed (Chemical Ali) was revealed during his trial of striking Halabja city.

Among those victims we remember today the story of Mr. Omar Khawer whose all 14 family members were killed in this massacre.

What is required from us?

Although all these genocides were committed, there are still followers of the extinct regime who have the desire to rule again, and they are still raising slogans for being proud of Alqadissiya (the Iraqi- Iranian war). They are still asking for compensation, and they are still using weapons of mass destruction, and they are professional in using these explosives in killing Iraqi innocent people, and they are organizing daily terror attacks by using all criminal means to target innocent Iraqi civilians. They haven’t had enough of their previous crimes.

The strange issue is that most of these criminals are still free and are still working strongly on daily basis with the support of members of Al-QAEDA to restore the former regime in Iraq.

There are too many previous regime followers who exist everywhere in Sweden and other western countries. They are enjoying privileges of the civilized countries, and they abuse the civilized laws of the western countries to perform their own agendas and to spread horror and instability.

- *We strongly call for stopping these stained hands with Iraqi people's blood.*
- *We call the International Community to chase these people and trial them.*
- *We call the International Criminal Court to punish and trial these criminals in the same way like Nazis members of the 2nd world war who were prosecuted in Nuremberg Trials and who are still chased in different places in the world.*
- *We also call for forming a special international court to trial those who have committed such awful crimes.*

These criminals must be punished to be an example and a lesson for future generations in order to prevent such people from using these international prohibited weapons.

We call the international community to follow the attitude of the British parliament and the Swedish parliament by the recognition of these crimes as genocide crimes.

We also call all countries and international organizations to work for the sake of defending human rights and to spread the culture of peace and living in freedom and democracy.

*No for armaments and no for supporting criminals;
Yes for chasing them;
Yes for drying up the sources of terrorism.*

Thank you very much Assalamu Alaikum