Monitoring of Human Rights in Iraq

Special Report

Testimonials regarding human rights in Basra
April 8th, 2006

- **Witnesses:** All full names were given to the United Nations Mission for Iraq
  1. R.A.H (Born in 1979, education: 6th grade, address: Basra, old basra)
  2. R.O.A.M (Born in 1988, education: 9th grade)
  4. D.A.H (Born in 1979, education: school - mid level)

- **Militias and parties:** Militias of the higher council of Islamic revolution called Badr forces: Iranian due to having most of its members Iranians, arrested Mr. R.A.H before the bombing of Algeria St. last Ramadan 2005. He was subject to interrogation by a man with an Iranian accent in the quarter of the interior intelligence named interior affairs (one of the officials there was Yousef who is a member of Thar Alla party and is responsible for police cars and was in Iran during the old regime and is now an officer in the Iranian intelligence. A dispute occurred between Al-Fadeela and Thar Alla parties after a group from Thar Alla killed many well known figures from different denominations. Thar Alla is the sole entity that possesses silencer weapons and was known of killing Sunnis accusing them of being Wahhabi as well as killing whoever is a member of a party accusing them of belonging to Al-Ba'th party even if the person was a newer. Al-Fadeela used these violations to take control in the government in Basra which led forces of the government to break into the office of Yousef's – Office Manager of Thar Alla party – whom found more than 50 persons detained there. Most of them were Sunni and some were from Al-Ba'th party. The Sunnis were detained for reasons of belief such as carrying a name like "Omar" who was tortured for three months. Another one was named Ahmad AbdelQader whom was asked by the governor during interrogation about the reason of his detention by Yousef's forces, he was crying without knowing the reason. When Al-Fadeela party broke into Yousef's house they killed his brother and three of his guards, and Yousef ran to Iran. After a short period, he came back and participated in the last elections in one of the main lists. After all these documented testimonials available to the governor on crimes of Thar Alla party, Thar Alla returned to usual practice of their work with support by the Ministry of Interior. This party like any other has quarters, prisons, and secret places for torture and interrogations. As for other terrorist organizations that practice killing and denominational torture, they are:
  - **Islamic Work Organization:** led by Taqi Eddin Al-Madras, some of its offices work on arresting people, kidnapping, torturing, and killing some of them if needed under formal protection and support by the current government. An example of that is the incident that took place in their office in Al-Naseriya; a rich woman was kidnapped who owned buildings and a taxi company. Her son

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was kidnapped after monitoring his movements and then asked his mother for a USD 40,000 ransom.

- **Baqeyyat Allah organization**: most of its members are still detained by Al-Fadeela party whom were arrested during a break into the quarters of Thar Alla party that work in coordination with Baqeyyat Allah due to the fact that both of them work for the Iranian intelligence.

- **Al-Intifada Al-Sha'baneyya movement**: led by Sabeeh – known as Sabeeh Mahkama -, he was famous for his investigations in roads and public gardens such as Al-Khoura and Al-Ashar as well as Sa'd square during the incidents of 1991. He made instant verdicts in public squares that resulted in execution for belonging to certain denominations or parties. He now wears religious turban and practices drug dealership and prostitution as well as alcohol. They also have clear activities in stealing and selling governmental possessions to finance their organization.

- **Al-Da'wa party**: their first leader killed 5 Sunni citizens of Abu Al-Khaseeb including a child of 12 years old during the first days of occupation. He ran to Iran due to the family of victims desire to revenge. This party is currently controlling the distribution of petroleum (there is pipe of refined petroleum in Al-Sh'eiba that takes petroleum from Al-Rmeila), petroleum and its desalted crude especially gas goes to Um Qasr port where Al-Da'wa party steel this gas through perforating/puncturing this pipe then selling it to the United Arab Emirates. They also control the port’s customs through renting the quays which are not administered according to the law or by the government. The income goes to finance their party.

- **Hezb Alla (God party)**: led by Hasan Al-Sari who was a renegade from Iran and is now a religious man. He participates with the rest of militias in the denominational extermination and was arrested by the American forces in Al-Amara city early 2005 in the last days of Dr. Allawi’s government where some of the Iranian revolution guards were found in his quarter in Al-Amara. This party is known with its arrestments and kidnaps for ransom as well as drug dealership.

- **Most employees of the internal affairs are not of aware of the prison there except a few of them who are highly positioned in Badr forces and Al-Da'wa party. It is for sure that the internal affairs in Basra are controlled by representatives of the collated committee which was activated few days prior Samerra’a bombing through a meeting in Dar Al-Hanana – a division of the higher council for Islamic revolution –. The meeting was attended by AbdelHadi Al-Ameri – Head of Bard forces- and Hazem Al-Aa'raj – Responsible for Al-Sadr martyr office in Al-Kathemeyya- and Abdelzahra Al-Swei'di – Al-Sadr city- and a representative from Ayat Allah Moh'd Mahdi Asfi – Head of the international Al Al-Beit institution (Int. Home Inst.) , and who leads a big network of offices for Iranian parties and militias-. Now that all the terrorist organizations that belong to parties or not have representative in the collated committee, they systemize the denominational extermination operations according to the Iranian agenda. Al-Da'wa and Badr coordinate to take control over the internal intelligence in the governorate under Iranian supervision, especially that issues that
have to do with break ins and denominational arrestment against Sunnis under pretence of belonging to Wahhabiyya. For example, in Abu Al-Khaseeb, more than 350 citizens were exterminated during the last period. Some of the Sunni prisoners were head of Al-Dawaser clan -Hamed Teryak-, Al-Zuhair mosque muezzin -Sa'd Abu Othman, Firas (stereos technician) in Basra, Omar Ali, Abu Hammam and Abu Al-Hasan (whom were brothers and were arrested from Manawi Basha mosque), Tahseen who was arrested from Al-Maheela mosque in Abu Al-Khaseeb under claim of leading terrorist groups and gives casuistry (he is still imprisoned), he was brought to justice more than twice where the judge asked him if he truly committed the crimes that were convicted for, his answer was I have no other choice except to confess after all the torture that left my body looking like this, here he showed his body that was full of brutal torture marks.

Shamefully, the judge gave an order to take him back to interrogations, which means more torture, due to insufficient evidences against him (bearing in mind that one judge and some lawyers who refuse these criminal techniques were killed by these militias). Sa'd Abu Othman who was imprisoned almost for a year for attempting to bomb Tanouma bridge. In reality, he was arrested for denominational reasons and confessed of the crime he did not due under brutal torture (he is now crippled due to torture with drills).

He is imprisoned at the interior affairs as mentioned by another prisoner named Mustafà from Al-Ghanem in Abu Al-Khaseeb who was lately released and is now a refugee in Syria due to fear of more torture he was subject to in the prison of interior affairs of the ministry of interior. Firas (the stereos technician) was arrested under pretence of making remote bombing machines. He now has a broken hand due to torture in internal affairs prison. He is still imprisoned. Bearing in mind that the interior affairs after the bombings of Al-Jaza'er region in Basra (2 days prior feast) arrested Sheikh Nader Abu Huthaifa (Imam of Al-Aashara Al-Mubashara Beljanna mosque in Al-Shamshoomeyya region) where he was arrested in his house in Al-Meshraq Al-Qadeem region. He was found killed two days later in Al-Engleez cemetery in Al-Hakeemeyya region in Basra with marks of extreme torture.

- On 22nd of February, a militia broke into Al-Mawane' prison in Basra and took 12 prisoners and were executed. Most of them were from Arabic and Islamic nationalities (one of them was a Turkish driver who was arrested for a violation related to his car which carry goods from Basra port to North Iraq and some to Turkey) without any reason except to increase hatred and denominational division and to give an excuse for the crimes after the bombing.

- Basra University is now controlled by the religious parties and their parties. On 27th till 28th March 2006, the forces of the interior affairs arrested in Sa'd square 10 Sunni students of literature faculty. They were found killed two days later in the industrial zone in Basra with torture and execution scars on their bodies. On 5th April 2006, Dr.
Salah AbdulAziz was assassinated. He used to teach in the industrial institute in Basra in Al-Zubair road. The assassination was through armed people in a car.

- Almost 25 days ago (mid March) 2 black BMW cars parked next to ma'koulat alsouri cross (also called Qasr Al-Sultan) close to Basra police station in Al-Manawi region at 8.00pm. In each car were 4 people wearing the Arabic costume and their facial features were like British. The police men asked them to move due to traffic but they did not do so which grabbed the attention of the citizens whom gathered around them. Due to the policeman's doubt he punctured the wheel of one of the cars while the other one escaped. After 15 minutes, a British helicopter and a British military tank arrived to the scene to take the four persons who were in the car and took a big bag from the trunk. After the retrieve of the force, citizens burned the car fear of using this car for bombing or any actions against civilians.

- The crown car: there are many black and white Crown cars – model of 1994 – and other ones of Mark ii – model of 1993 – who are used by two or three persons in each car supported for protection by other different cars from different brands. After follow up by a family member of one of the victims in Abu Al-Khaseeb, he found out that these belong to the interior affairs (interior intelligence). These are used for assassinations according to extermination lists prepared by Iran, bearing in mind that the current Basra governor – Moh'd Al-Subh – received a call from the minister of interior Bayan Soulagh asking him with clear threat to release the car and its criminal passengers which were arrested by Basra police in 24 hours, otherwise, he will cancel Basra governorate and its governmental entities.

According to police special sources that interrogated with the passengers whom clearly received special training in Iran on killing and assassination. The last one killed by these cars was the old man Qais, he was living in Nathran region in Basra and worked as a technician. A car stopped in front of his shop and shot him dead (he was working with his brother in the Islamic party and had clear effort in raising awareness in favor of the Islamic party during the last elections).

The lawyer Amna Al-Hamadani was also killed using this car whom was an activist in human rights. 5 members of Al-Sa'doun family were also killed. A child and sheikh Nawaf Ahmad from Al-Ashar region were also killed using that car which was supported by a pick-up vehicle for protection. Other crimes performed using this car was also shooting prayers coming out from Al-Manaseer mosque in Al-Jam'eyyat region after Al-Maghreb prayer beginning of April killing two of them. Two days later, forces of the interior affairs kidnapped two prayers from that same mosque after Al-E'sha' prayer after torturing them. Their dead bodies were left near the mosque the next day.

- Compulsive migration: this started in Abu Al-Khaseeb by the interior affairs through arresting and killing some Sunni families to terror the rest of the families there aiming to force them to leave. Some of them received letters threatening of killing and burning the houses if they stay. More than 10 families from Zamel clan left, and other 3 from Al-Rifa'I, and 4 from Al-Ghanem. This reached to Al-Janeenah region in

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Basra in which they put (X) mark on the Sunni families houses and gave the citizens 3 days to leave or else they will burn the family in their house. This forced 8 families to escape.

- On 7\textsuperscript{th} April 2006 the interior forces arrested more than 40 Sunni persons in Al-Zubair region in Basra. Many of them were found dead on 8\textsuperscript{th} April 2006 aiming to serve the demographic change in the governorate and the federal denominational federation that the militias and parties serve.

- Most of the translators for the British forces are from the militias and belong to the parties which led the British forces to commit mistakes and violations based on wrongful information by the militias and parties for denominational reasons and a special policy that serve these militias that serve the Iranian intelligence.