

## **Um Al-Qura Communiqué**

The Iraqi patriotic resistance forces met at the Umm Al-Qura Mosque in Baghdad on February 15, 2005 to discuss the current stage of events and the measures that need to be taken on all fronts. Participants at the meeting studied proposals that aim to make Iraq an independent, united, sovereign state once more.

The forces who attended the meeting announced that they will deal with the national dialogue, which they have set out and called for it since the occupation began, once the following have been complied with:

1. A clear, defined and publicised schedule that is binding in accordance with international safeguards for the withdrawal of occupation forces from Iraq and the institutions and laws it has created.
2. To end the ethnic and sectarian quota system and instead using the principles of citizenship and equality of rights and duties before the law.
3. To acknowledge the right of the Iraqi people to reject the occupation and to acknowledge the Iraqi resistance and its legal right to defend the country and its resources and to reject the terrorism targeting innocent Iraqi citizens, important public installations and institutions and places of worship, including mosques, Shi'a meeting houses, churches and all holy places.
4. The elections that were held were not wholly legal as they were based on the Law of Administration for the State of Iraq which we refuse to accept. The elections were not supported by legal and security structures, were accompanied by a widespread popular boycott and were marred by election fraud. The administration created by the elections is not entitled to ratify any agreement or convention as this would result in the violation of Iraq's sovereignty and the unity of its lands, people, economy and the violation of its natural resources.
5. To use democracy and elections as the only means of rotating the leadership and working to prepare the political atmosphere and laws so that the political process can function in an impartial and transparent atmosphere under neutral, international supervision.
6. To endorse Iraq's Arab-Islamic national identity and to stand resolute against all calls to deny Iraq this identity.
7. Releasing all prisoners and detainees jailed by the occupation forces and the interim government, particularly women, and to stop the ongoing raids and human rights violations in all parts of Iraq and to demand that devastated Iraqi cities are rebuilt and their people are compensated fairly.

They call on other patriotic groups who agree with them on these points to sign this statement in the service of the national cause. We hope that all the patriotic groups in Iraq unite and consolidate their position.

The Patriotic opposition forces

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Furthermore, at eleven o'clock this morning, representative of a large number of nationalist, patriotic and Islamic movements met to discuss the current situation in Iraq after the elections and the interim government's call in the national interest. Subhi Abdul Hamid, representing the Arab nationalist movement read out the abovementioned statement, straight after which a press conference was held which Sheikh Abdul Hadi Al-Daraji, representing the Al-Sadr Movement and Dr. Muthanna Harith Al-Dari, the official spokesman of the Association of Muslim Scholars, took part in.