

**Studies Center of
Democracy & Rights
Human**



**مركز دراسات الديمقراطية
وحقوق الإنسان**

Unofficial translation

A briefed report on American Crimes in AL-Fallujah

For the period of November 7 to December 25, 2004

This report is focusing on some examples of the grave violations committed by the U.S. forces in Fallujah on which testimonies of many eyewitnesses, doctors as well as members of humanitarian organizations who happened to be in the city during the above mentioned period, are all confirming the committing of these crimes.

It is almost impossible to describe all what had happened in Fallujah during the last two months, but in brief; the deliberate destruction of the whole city by the American forces, torturing its civilians, preventing food and medicine, and killing injures, represent the most horrible crime of the recent history against innocent civilians, grave violations of international humanitarian law. The examples cited in this report are a clear- cut evidence of the political and moral defeat of the United State of America and its ally Great Britain who practiced the worst ugly crimes against humanity. It is worst shameful that those who alleged to represent the civilized world had done such crimes and yet they are vaunting falsely with the principles of human rights and democracy.

1-On the 7th of November, 2004, the U.S forces accompanied by so called (the Iraqi National Guards), took control of Fallujah hospital using all military means, capturing the doctors, tying their hands knocking them down to ground in addition of beating them by theirs shoes. In the meantime they had robbed the hospital equipment and destroyed the apparatuses that they could not carry. Besides they have arrested all the patients, preventing the sick people of receiving medical treatments, whilst the city was under comparing by all weapon means. Taking into consideration it is the only hospital available in the city.

2- A few days later, the besieged medical staff opened an alternative hospital but the U.S. jets had bombarded it, killing every person who was in that humble hospital including all sick persons, doctors, nurses and injuries. Then, the so called (Iraqi National Guards) destroyed, with the help of U.S. soldiers, the sole private hospital in Fallujah, steeling all what they can from its medical equipment, leaving the city without any functioning medical unit.

3- U.S. forces detained and arrested a great proportion of civilians (especially men and youth) who remained in the city with their families. After arresting those detainees, who are estimated by more than three thousand civilian, they put them in a very humiliating cages, then they used, in a flagrant violation to the principles of human rights, some of them, were forced to work in cleaning the city in order to erase all the evidence of the American crimes. On the other hand, U.S. forces shifted a quite large number of them to Abu Gharib and Basra (Boukah) prisons whilst another number of them died because of inhuman environment in those two bad reputations prison camps.

4- Affirmation of many witnesses the group killings of unarmed civilians after arresting them inside their houses and in mosques. Also many were shot to death after tying their hand backwards and others by exploding their houses over their heads to wipe out the criminal actions they had done.

5- Although there is no fixed number for the casualties among civilians but indeed they are by thousands. On 25th and 26th of December 2004, the emergency teams of Fallujah hospital had lifted 700 dead bodies from six residential quarters only - Fallujah is consisted of 28 residential quarters- among those bodies 504 were of children and women the remaining belong to old men and mid-aged people, all are Iraqis. An Iraqi doctor declared that these bodies were found on the streets, buildings roofs, gardens, and under the wreckage. The doctor ascertained that number of civilians had been killed repulsively and burned their bodies with chemicals, whilst others were killed with spears; they found a woman tabbed by a spear in her thighs, chest, waists and head. The American forces itself announced that there are more that 1200 bodies kept in one of refrigerated stores. This is indicating how huge and massive were the killing of civilians in al Fallujah battle.

6- There are clear evidence that U.S. forces had used chemical weapons in Fallujah. Eyewitnesses confirm that in both Al Golan and Al Shuhada' residential quarters, the U.S. forces had used such weapons. In al-Askary residential quarter 24 bodies were found burnt to ash and their bones were appearing burnt and black. U.S soldiers were seen while coming in that area wearing masks designed to protect themselves from the chemical weapons. In addition, volunteers who buried the bodies noticed some of the dead people died while they were laying on their beds without being shot or stabbed or burned. There is no any doubt that the U.S. forces were widely using cluster bombs on the residential areas in Fallujah. More than 25 cluster bombs were dropped on the city daily.

7- Most of the founded bodies were for civilians and what is noticeable these civilians where in certain places that confirm they were practicing their normal life in their houses. It is clear that the U.S. soldiers sentenced them to death by attacking their houses. Among the dead was a man with his tow children and two young girls were found killed by shooting on the heads. In another place a body of an old man was found setting on a chair holding his

walking stick.

8- Some of the citizens stressed that while they were fleeing with their families, U.S. snipers sniped to death many old men, women and children. This is were ascertained by some journalists who were embedded with the occupation forces and reported that orders were given to shoot on any moving thing during breaking through the city.

9- Eye witnesses also confirmed that U.S. tanks used to crush the dead bodies and any alive wounded persons and some of the witness also confirmed that the tanks had crush wounded persons by rolling over them without any mercy or sympathy. Just my of the medical teams and organization who were allowed to enter the city confirmed they did not find any injured person despite the intensive bombing and what was thrown on the city will wipe off any city on the earth from existence. The question is where had the injuries gone? The answer: of course all had been killed or crushed by the tank's chains or burnt to death.

10- Although of the emergency teams continuous work, yet not all the corpses under the wreckage were lifted, nor they could reach all the city parts to rescue or lift away the deteriorated and disintegrated bodies. Thus the nasty smells could reach more far than the outskirts of the city. This proves what the citizens had asserted that the American soldiers had sentenced many families to death while invading the city. Civilian bodies were found shot to death inside houses especially in the area between the two bridges and of all different ages -men, women, youths, olds, children males and females. Moreover, tow bodies were found killed and cut off their heads and stuck both heads on both bodies. It is important to mention that U.S. soldiers did not allow any one to take away the bodies despite demanding that by the citizens.

11- The scenes of martyrs' bodies eaten by dogs on the streets of Fallujah became widely known through the media. It is a clear evidence of another crime committed by the U.S forces that had carelessly left the bodies lying on streets and in the opened houses without interment. This is an incisive proof of the grave violation to all human rights laws and values. This dreadful sight provokes any one who has a human conscience, but didn't touch Bush, Blair and Allawi and all the blood suckers of the same category.

12- Until the date of this report, more that 36 mosques were distracted

completely and another 24 mosques were partially destroyed. This proves how much the aversion they hold against religion and the values of any civilized nation and their blind hates against religion symbols at Fallujah. Over and above the breach of the international law and human right laws.

13- In a flagrant attempt by the U.S forces to suppress their war crimes in Fallujah, some of the volunteers, who came to bury the bodies, asserted that some of the journalists embedded with U.S. forces refrained from taking photos of some bodies who were found killed in their beds and some places that will raise questions why they were killed. They took photos only after putting these bodies in big sacks.

14- The destruction that had been falling on the City is enormous and tremendous, and yet the U.S. forces persisting to pose and practice its collective punishments against the citizens of Fallujah. i.e. the deliberate destruction of vacant residential houses whom their owners had taken refuge outside the city.

15- Since the beginning of the invasion until now the occupation forces had disarmed the police departments' and staff in all units within al-Fallujah, as well as from any communication equipment and their personal cars. This is an obvious implication of encouraging spoilage and rifling as well as an endeavor to eliminate the role of the Judicial and security units from preserving law and order, it is also a clear attempt to give the U.S. occupation forces the excuse to remain in the city on the pretext of lacking security.

16- Eyewitnesses had confirmed that the so called (Iraqi National Guards) had stolen, robbed houses and stores using their official cars. And they sold the robbed items in surrounding areas and in different places at Baghdad, this was done with the knowledge and approval of U.S. forces and the Iraqi authorities as if it is a reward or a war gift granted to them.

17- As it is announced, the U.S. forces are applying criminality plan against who are willing to return to the city from its citizens to check out what had happened to their homes. After the long waiting in the open air and the very cold weather, in addition to threatening actions and torture, a long process of finger prints for both hands fingers and retina scans of any returnees, and then they will get a special identification card defining where he or she lives

according to the residential area. Therefore, the city will be turned to be a wide prison for its resident. This is an advanced step toward democracy and freedom and toward respecting the human rights that U.S.A is alleging!!

18- After all, it had been obvious that U.S. forces is intending to use those citizens who returned home as human shields after the continuation of skirmishes and battles in several parts of the city, as these forces is not controlling on the city as they are claiming.

19- The U.S forces are distributing advertisements and some posters saying a mortal power is (allowed) inside the city, citizen must be aware of being close to coalition forces, and any person carries a weapon will expose himself to be killed!.

20- The U.S. forces sources said that they are going to give 500 U.S. dollars to each family upon their return to the city. In the same time, the Iraqi governmental sources said that they are going to compensate each family had lost their house by 4000 dollars, while each house cost not less than USD 50 thousand; this is not including the furniture and other properties. This an extreme deeds of humiliations to the Fallujah citizens. The compensations are not to be assessed by the aggressors and the traitors, but this is to be conducted by neutral parties; the compensation should be enough for restoring things to its previous condition.

21- Upon counting the graves numbers, they are not more that 300 tombs, whereas the U.S forces itself announced that it had killed 1600 (fighters) during the battles in Fallujah. This will affirm that there are mass graves were hidden, that is to efface any evidence on the crimes committed by the Americans forces.

22- Continuation of devastating residential houses in the city, burning some. Eyewitnesses asserted that, after the battle, numbers of returnees from al-Andalus residential area found their houses intact, but when they left the city and returned back three days later; they found that these houses were destroyed recently without any reason. As witnesses also affirmed that the U.S. forces is making a film now in Fallujah showing the performing of their forces in al-Fallujah battle, and how they advanced into the city. For the sack of this Hollywood film, they raids and bombard several areas already under the control of their forces, destroying empty houses just to show how (brave) and (humane)

there soldiers were. In this connection they set ablaze 20 houses in one night, in one area, it was al- Shurta.

The unjustified flimsy reasons, that the criminals are defending their crimes do not give any international body or regional organization, the pretext to avoid the fulfillment of their responsibilities toward the grave violations and the crimes against humanity that happened in Fallujah and happening now. People of Fallujah, appealing to all international organizations, especially the Red Cross and the high commissioner for human rights and all the Governments who sought justice and peace and call upon all peace loving people in the world to practice their humanitarian roles to press on both Americans and Britain Administrations to stop these massacres and non-humanitarian action and to reject the hireling government installed by U.S. and Britain.

In this regard they demand the followings:

First: to withdraw the Occupation and the so called (National Guards) from the city immediately since they have committed war crimes against the civilians in Fallujah, to remain will cause tension and continuous disputes to revenge from them, therefore, violence will increase. Instead, the subrogation should be the Iraqi police and the civil defense forces from the City inhabitants or the surrounding areas.

Second: To set free and release all the detained and arrested people of Fallujah Citizens immediately who are innocent and there are no legal evidences convicting them and this should be under the supervision of the United Nation and the high commission of human rights.

Third: The international humanitarian organizations under the supervision of the United Nation should take further effective and comprehensive measures to treat the situation of the Fallujah refugees who are more than 350000 and to provide them with essential life means, and medical treatment until their return is secured safely to the City, in particular the areas which are suffering severe shortage of such services, i.e. medical, drinkable water and humanitarian needs. In the same connection, to immediately carry out a vaccination campaign especially for the children.

Four: To call psychotherapy doctors to treat victims suffering mental pain and

anguish and to find solution to the problems of many families who lost their supporters or lost their children and other members, if such problems remain without solutions a violent reaction will take place and revenges will also be spread over as per the tradition of this City.

Five: The return of the refugees should be supervised and organized by the United Nation, Red Cross and Iraqi Red Crescent, and to guarantee no new crimes will be committed against them. This should be preceded by a comprehensive campaign to remove the wreckage and eliminate of the pollution in order to secure health protection for all civilians.

Six: To establish a special fund determined for rebuilding the City, this should be supervised by the specialized International institution agencies belong to United Nation and should be funded by interior and external donators. Full and adequate compensations for the Fallujah citizens should be paid by U.S government to cover all the damages and losses occurred as a result of its invasion and occupation to the City.

Seven: To speed up the formulation of independent international investigating committees without having any links with the occupation authorities and the provisional Iraqi Government, to investigate with other international organizations in what had been committed in Fallujah of crimes, and searching for the missing persons and to find where about the bodies of the death, this should be co-operated with the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

Eight: All those who committed war crimes in Fallujah must be referred to international criminal courts in accordance with the International Law.

Nine: To prorogate the election which are going to be held to be processed after the occupation withdrawal to guarantee its legitimacy.

The fabulous endurance of Fallujah is a magnificent humanistic example, the results of which will go beyond Iraq and it will serve the humanity at large. We are sure that all the honest, decent people in the world and in the United States itself, will support our demands, to put an end to such kind of crimes and violations. Otherwise, silence and looking over these acts will help to repeat it in other parts of the world.

It become more important than ever before that the U.N and the International Organizations to take measure according to its obligations and responsibilities to expose and disclose apparently all these crimes that the U.S. forces had done at Fallujah and be far from bargaining between the executioner and the victim.

We invite the International community also to demand from the International Organizations- mainly the Red Cross - to announce and reveal out all reports they possess regarding the aforesaid crimes. The transparency requires making available those reports to the international community not only to be shared with the executioner.

Finally we do hope, from all honest people to distribute these reports widely in order to expose these crimes to the international community. It is the simplest right for the City which being and still being slaughtered by the American invaders.

Studies Center of Human Rights & Democracy
For/ The Civil Network Organizations at Al-Fallujah City

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