

Turkmen Nationalist Movement



Irregularities in Iraqi Election

To/ Independent High commission for election in Iraq
Subject/ Irregularities in Iraq Election

We would like to extend our gratitude and thanks to your efforts in making the elections as transparent and civilized as possible. Despite of our warnings about the following points that were raised by us previously and asked to be considered before it materialized,

First:

Neynawa Province

According to statements obtained by our deputies in Neynawa province. The distribution of ballot papers did not take place in the province...some ballot centers were not opened despite of being declared previously as an open ballot centers...because of the chief of center and the workers were absent and they didn't show up at the center, which caused deprivation of the right to vote for electorates, best example in this region is (Talafer-Hamdaniye-Iyadhiyya-Rashidiyye), also in other regions of Western Mosul, where the majority of the population are Turkmen and Arabs. In the mean time, the chief of Neynawa office for the high commission and some employees had come out with the promise of continuing casting of ballots on the next day which was Jan.31.2005 to correct the problem, but did not hold the promise.

Thousands of Mosul residents and surrounding areas demonstrated

on 01/31/2005 protesting these violations.

Also, in some regions there were no ballot centers set despite of being assigned previously, specifically in the regions with the majority of residents from Turkmen, Arab and Yazidis. That deprived more than (400,000) (Four Hundred Thousand) citizens from casting their ballots. That constitutes %5 of the ballots. The prove for what happened in Neynawa province was stated by the president Shaykh Ajeel Alyawer on Feb.01.2005 news conference, and the demonstrations of residents shown on the news channel Alsharqiye on Jan.31/2005 and Feb.01/2005.

Second:

Salahaddeen Province

Some local and satellite TV stations were conducting interviews with voters to urge

them to vote for their party list in front of the ballot centers... in addition to that some chiefs of ballot centers around Qadir Kerem and Tuz county center had marked ballot papers themselves for certain parties and placed them in ballot boxes.

Then, isn't it a violation when some Kurdish parties preprinted pieces of papers tell voters they have to vote for list number (130) or (167) and distributed these papers in front of ballot centers. If we assume this act as a campaigning then it is a violation, let alone the fact that they cohere the voters to vote for their list which it is against your instructions. The same thing occurred in Kerkuk and Diyala too.

Third:

Kerkuk Province

Despite of all violations that we informed you about, a new ballot center 45 where erected in addition to the original 191. These newly made ballot centers were set in Kurdish areas such as Shorjah, Rahimawa, Iskan, Qara Injir, Shuwan, Sargilan and others that were not included in the high commission original plan to set ballot boxes, papers and observers, that caused some authorities to withdraw these equipment (except the observers) from other areas of Kerkuk in turn caused a big shortage in these essentials, in addition to enforcing unofficial observers and employees from Kurds in the new centers and provided two squads of Peshmargas wearing National Guard uniform made specifically for this purpose.

All this caused irregularities and shortage of essentials inside Kerkuk, resulted in election violations.

So many voting centers run out of ballot papers before closing time of voting such as center number (386004) and Ballot centers in Hawijah (Alabbasiye) and (Alzab) around 13:15 afternoon...those citizens returned home without casting their votes and blaming the commission...

Some ballot centers (School buildings) run out of ballot papers which caused the voting to halt for 3 hours that made some citizens to give up and leave the voting centers without casting vote, and more precisely these violations occurred in Turkmen and Arab areas.

Obviously, according to the number of voters, the number of ballots for City council should be equal to the number of ballots for national assembly...yet for ballot center (Aljamahir) we found the ballot papers for the city council finished twice without running out for the National Assembly ballots.

At one o'clock afternoon in the ballot center (Al shahba school) number (389006) in Wahid Huzayran area near Aswaq Anwar and in front of the observers named (Yahya), (Abdulaziz) and (Izzaddeen) and as a citizen witness named (Abdilkhalik Mejid)...a Coaster bus arrived full of people...and the centers chief received a mobile phone call ...then all of them got out of the bus and the ballot papers were distributed to them without being asked for any identification...then they casted their votes and returned to the bus without even putting their fingers in the permanent ink...is there a violation more than this.

It is known that campaigning is not allowed in ballot centers unless it is at least 100m far from it, but in the center (390001) and (397001) the campaigning was in full swing and the evidence is still visible around the center.

Most of chiefs of ballot centers were under pressure and threatened by agents of political entities that caused lots of ballots to be marked and put in boxes without any voters showing up.

Accordingly.... please take the necessary steps to establish fairness and justice, because most of the violations took place in the Turkmen majority areas.

Your quick response is appreciated.

Husameddin Ali Turkmen
President of the Turkmen Nationalist Movement

Copy;

-Mr. Cofi Annan- via Mr. Ashraf Kadhy

-Mr. Carlos- representative of U.N in the High Commission for

Election

-High Commission in Iraq

-Information office- Do the necessary to follow up the issue

-File