

CLARIFICATION

Regarding the preparations of the Erbil governorate for the Iraqi National Conference.

The transfer of sovereignty was good news for the Iraqi people. They began placing the foundations for a democracy that was longed for by all and which will prepare them for elections early next year. A democracy which the people of Iraq strove for through prominent, patriotic movements which have struggled for decades and given many martyrs. Our Assyrian Democratic Movement is one of those movements that struggled against dictatorship, oppression and suppression for more than a quarter of a century both financially and in giving lives. Through its patriotic resistance, it established a place for itself among the Iraqi opposition. It also gained the respect of our people putting it at the forefront of their true aspirations.

In the backdrop of this optimism, those who are preparing to nominate the officials of the Erbil governorate have ignored the role our movement has played, even though it represents the ChaldoAssyrian people in that historical establishment; the Kurdish parliament. At the forefront of those ignoring our movement and scorning its role is the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP). The KDP has not allowed our people to choose our representatives for the governorate. The KDP has chosen its own list of representatives to participate in the Iraqi National Congress.

We strongly object to such ways and methods. We ask the Higher Committee making preparations for the Congress to investigate this matter because what has happened undermines the validity of the Congress and contradicts the bases upon which the Higher Committee has relied.

Erbil Branch
Assyrian Democratic Movement
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