
OCCUPATION: THE CAUSE, NOT THE SOLUTION

Iraqi Writers, Journalists and Activists Pre-emptive Statement Against Election Fraud

We, a diaspora of Iraqi writers, journalists and activists*, strongly believe that peace and security in our country can only be guaranteed through a democratic framework and that free and fair elections are the only means to express our people's will and representation in government. We equally strongly condemn the massacres and atrocities perpetuated against our people under the pretext of preparing for an election and implementing democracy, with the "Interim Government" acting as a cover for these daily war crimes.

1. We fully support the position of the patriotic groups and parties that met on the 17th November 2004 at Umul Qura Mosque in Baghdad, and their decision to boycott the election that the occupation forces and their local stooges intend to carry out in January. We believe their aim is to falsify the will of the people and to legitimize perpetual occupation
2. We demand that the "Interim Government", if it really wants fair elections, cease repression, murder and arrest of patriots who demand it end the occupation, allow free expression and release all those arrested.
3. We demand that the Interim Government cease its cover-up of the horrendous crimes of the occupation forces and stop the continued use of tanks and gunships in our country to "promote democracy".
4. We ask that a juridical commission with integrity be formed from local experts of all persuasions—including both armed and peaceful resistance forces—to formulate a new administrative law to replace the one imposed by the occupation for its own purposes and which has sidelined the interests of our people. We also call for the formation of local commissions from persons of known integrity of different persuasions to supervise the elections; and that an Arab, Islamic and International commission, independent of the US occupation, oversee the process.

We call on our people to be vigilant, to escalate the protest demonstrations and petitions, to appeal to the conscience of international public opinion, and to uphold the boycott of the fraudulent elections until fairness is guaranteed.

In Peace,

Dr. Shakir El-Hajj Moukthlef, *Editor of Madar El-Adabi*, Dr. Shaahd Malik El-Ward, *Professor*, Dr. Tumarder Munshed Al-Amari, *Professor*, Dr. Khaldoun Mohamed Faris, *Professor*, Dr. Jumana Hassan Al-Ayoubi, *Professor and Writer*, Dr. Hoda El-Hashimi, *Professor and Writer*, Dr. Mohamed Sayed Al-Ghazali, *Researcher*, Karim Sayed El-Habobi, *Writer*, Dr. Mohamed Karim Al-Jaf, *Researcher in the history of Iraq*, Dr. Fatma El-Mahdi, *Writer and Professor*, Dr. Layali Abdel Badai, *Writer*, Dr. Assad Karim Khatani, *International Law Professor*, Dr. Mohamed Khalil Kona, *Professor of Economics*, Dr. Abass Subiah El-Abdeli, *Professor of International Relations*, Walid Raheem Al-Mushta, *Writer*, Dr. Wael Khazwaan Atikriti, *Professor of Iraq Studies*, Samira Abdel Karim, *Writer*, Sousan Abu Noor, *Writer for El-Kotr Al-Misri*, Dr. Eman Al-Naqueb, *Researcher of Arabic Literature*, Anwar El-Basri, *Writer*, Maha Hasan El-Baghdadi, *Writer*, Faiza Abdel Mohsen, *Writer*, Wahab Mohamed Amin, *Writer*, Wahid Wagdy, *Writer*, Dr. Sannan Abdulah, Dr. Jamila Muntuser, *Researcher in Middle East Affairs*, Dr. Aktem Abdelbaqi, *Petrochemical Science*, Jumina Abdel Ali, *Author*, Dr. Faris Ahmed El-Azawi, *Researcher*, Dr. Abdel Ellah Khadouri, *Political Affairs Researcher*, Essam Kheiri Karim, *Researcher of Human Rights*, Mayida Karum, *Writer*, Mohamed Aktum El-Jafari, *Writer*, Dawoud Yacoub, *Writer*, Maged Abdel Hadi, *Writer*, Mahdi Kareem Hantoush, *Brigade General*, Emad Khalid El-Dalemi, *General*, Lt. Basil Mustufa Hamdan, Sergeant Amjid Halim El-Hassan, Waujdhani Amin, *Writer*, Aouwni Filmaji, *Writer and Official Speaker for National Iraqi Alliance*, Shoukhat Khizindar, *writer and National Democratic Communist Party*, Reda Shoukh, *Activist for the National Democratic Communist Party*, Abdul Illah Albayati, *writer*, Mudher Adhami, *researcher*, Sami Ramadani, *lecturer*, Tahrir Abdul Samad Numan, *teacher, women right activities*. Colonel Salim Shakr Alimami, *former officer in Iraqi army*, Najati Kalanchi, *engineer*, Sabah AlShaher, *novelist*, Dr . Shaker Alsaadi, *academic*, Ali al-Obaydi, *writer*, Netherlands. Dr. Muhammad al-Kudsi, *academic researcher*, Ahmad Karim Taha, *National democratic Communist Movement*, Kadhemi Muhammad Taqi, *political activist*, Shwan Shawkat Ahmad, *teacher*, Soran Shawkat Ahmad, *teacher*, Bassam Shawkat Ahmad, *teacher*, Barasan Ahmad Qader, *political activist*, Khalil al-Kubayssi, *political activist*, Tariq al-Dulaymi, *writer*, Shak Abdul Latif al-Soaadi, *writer*, Bassim al-Adhami, *Iraqi Islamic Party*, Hussein al-Husseini, *student*, Haidar Sadiq al-Baghdadi, *political activist*, Ahmed al-Bayati, *engineer*, Jawadat Khairaldeen al-Taay, *solicitor*, Ali al-Wa'ali, *political activist*, Muhammad Najib Ali, *engineer*, Dr . Qassim al- Algawi, *academic*, Mustsfa Yassin Snad, *political activist*, Dr . Mousa al- Hussaini, *writer*, Dr. Mohamed Karim Al-Jaf, *Researcher in the history of Iraq*, Dr. Fatma El-Mahdi, *Writer and Professor*, Dr. Layali Abdel Badai, *Writer*, Dr. Assad Karim Khatani, *International Law*

***For a complete list of signatories in Arabic, see <http://www.thawabit.com/>. Iraqis wishing to sign the Petition may do so by sending their name and affiliation (for identification purpose only) to either: info@thawabit.com or resist@iraqpatrol.com**

“The elections in Iraq should not be the endgame. The endgame is to put an end to the occupation and make a true national reconciliation possible.”

Saad Abdul-Razeq, Member
Independent Democrats Movement