



*Canadian Friends of a Democratic Iran*  
*Amis Canadiens d'un Iran Démocratique*

September 16, 2014

**Hon. Haider al-Abadi**

The Prime Minister of Iraq  
Baghdad, Iraq

Dear Prime Minister:

As co-chair of the non-partisan NGO, Canadian Friends of a Democratic Iran, and as former Secretary of State for Asia-Pacific (2002-03) and Latin America and Africa (1997-2002), permit me to congratulate you upon your election as Prime Minister. I earnestly hope that Iraq can regain its place among the community of nations by rejecting violence and terrorism and embracing human rights and rule of law for all its residents, irrespective of faith, ethnicity or gender.

Our NGO has followed with great concern the state of human dignity in both Iran and Iraq. One of the topics that we have repeatedly raised with your predecessor as prime minister and UN officials was the plight of Iranian dissidents, members of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI/MEK) in Camp Ashraf and subsequently in Camp Liberty.

Mr al-Maliki as prime minister exerted the most inhumane pressures on Camp residents since 2009, ignoring both international treaties and, more specifically, the agreement upon which the US turned the protection of the camp residents over to Iraqi forces. Several violent attacks on Camps Ashraf and Camp Liberty resulted in more than 100 deaths and hundreds of injured.

The international calls for an independent investigation concerning the attacks on Ashraf, especially the murder of 52 residents of Camp Ashraf on September 1, 2013, who had stayed there to resolve the property issues based on the four-party agreement among the US, Iraq, UN and residents, have remained unheeded.

The national Parliament of Canada held a series of hearings on the situation of Camps Ashraf and Liberty, which demanded accountability for the massacre of September 1st 2013, as well as a resolution for the residents at Liberty, who were forced from their home of 26 years in Ashraf, into a prison-like situation in Camp Liberty, as per the UN working Group on arbitrary detention.

We believe that the following 10-point demand, as stipulated by other like-minded persons and human rights activists, summarizes well the requirements for an Iraq based on the principles of human rights and the rule of law:

1. Recognition of Camp Liberty as a refugee camp under the supervision of UNHCR and recognition of the residents' status as refugees and protected persons under the Fourth Geneva Convention.

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2. Annulment of all oppressive decisions by the Maliki government taken against the residents of Ashraf and Liberty and the referral of Camp Liberty's dossier to agencies and individuals in the Government of Iraq, who are not acting on the orders of the Iranian regime or affiliated groups.
3. Guaranteeing the safety and security of the residents by the United States, which according to the quadripartite agreement of 16 August 2012 "Commit[s] to support safety and security of the residents until the last of the residents leaves Iraq," including provision of security and protection requirements to the camp against ground and missile attacks such as returning the T-walls, protective helmets and vests as well as medical equipment.
4. Termination of the prison conditions in Liberty and allowing freedom of movement according to numerous UNHCR statements.
5. Transferring all armed Iraqi individuals and their weapons and equipment to the Camp's outside perimeter.
6. Complete lifting of the siege on Camp Liberty, ensuring the reinstatement of standards and requirements of normal life according to articles 1, 2, 3, 4 of Third Section of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the U.N. and the Government of Iraq (GoI) on 25 December 2011 (1).
7. Connecting Liberty to the national power grid and sewage network at the residents' expense.
8. Providing the necessary fuel and logistics by relevant Iraqi ministries, to be sold to the residents at the rates available to Iraqi citizens, and residents' free access to the purchase of all goods and services that Iraqi citizens are allowed to procure in accordance with the agreement between Ambassador Bremer and Prime Minister Allawi, General Miller's letter to the representative of the residents 25 June 2004 (2).
9. GoI agreement to allow the residents to sell their moveable and immovable property in Ashraf and Liberty, as well as permission to open a bank account to transfer the proceeds of the sale to it.
10. Releasing the seven Ashraf hostages and conducting a UN investigation into six massacres in Ashraf and Liberty, and bringing to justice the perpetrators of these crimes, especially those who ordered and carried out the September 1, 2013 massacre at Ashraf.

I trust that with heightened international attention to Iraq and the threats posed to its citizens by internal and external enemies, including continuing meddling in Iraqi affairs by the regime in Tehran and the destructive role that the IRGC's Qods Force has played, you and your new government can turn this page of Iraq's bloodshed to one with a more prosperous Iraq that respects human rights as a fundamental value.



Hon. David Kilgour, JD  
Co-Chair, Ottawa

CC:

H.E. Fuad Masum, President of Iraq

Dr. Saleem Al-Jaboori, Speaker of the Parliament of Iraq

Dr. Ayad Allawai, Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq

Dr. Ussamah Al-Nujaifee

Hon. Masoud Barazani, Head of the Iraqi Kurdish territory

Dr. Zafer Al-Aani

Hon. John Kerry, US Secretary of State

Hon. Robert S. Beecroft, US Ambassador to Iraq

Hon. Brett McGurk

Hon. Antonio Guterres, UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Mr. Mohammad Mohadessin, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the NCRI