

Southern Kurdistan needs an election!

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As we know the southern part of Kurdistan which is under Iraq, has been divided between the two dominant political parties since 1996. As we know too this division is a result of power struggle, it's not because of the interests of the Kurdish people. The long peace process between the two political parties, which started in 1998, could never achieve a real peace and reunification of the divided Kurdish territory. In the current situation, the two parties have big difficulties to reach an agreement and unite their governments. The talks and negotiations between them are taking place behind the closed doors. The talks are secret and the people have never been informed about the details and their discrepancy. That means that the ordinary Kurdish people do not have any idea about the details and do not know what is going on!

The question is; is that a right procedure to solve the problem and to reuniting the Kurdish home? Do the two parties have legitimacy? If no, Why?

1. There hasn't been a parliamentary election since the first election in 1992, which means the legitimacy of the Kurdistan regional parliament is not there anymore. The same can be said about the legitimacy of the two Kurdish governments. There is not any relevant excuse that can justify this undemocratic governing and policy.
2. The talks between the political parties have been concentrating on the interest of the two parties, not on the interest of the people. In other words the talks have been on how to share the ministerial posts and how to share the presidency of a united government and the parliament. That means the negotiations are not about what is necessary to the Kurdistan people and what's democratically right to do.
3. During the bloody infighting conflict and the years after, the two parties violated the principles of "Kurdaity" in many ways; they dealt with the occupier states; they got military support from those states; they executed the Kurdish prisoners of war; they killed many innocent civil residents and so on. The leaders or the responsible leaders of the two rival parties have never been prosecuted in a court or accused for their crimes. Actually they are in charge now!

Regarding those facts, the two political parties and their leaders not only have legitimacy to be in charge, they are guilty in several aspects. They are ignoring the people and following their selfish interest. In many ways they behave like the Bahthists.

All this indicate that the behaviors of the two parties are wrong; the procedure of reunification is wrong. Ignoring the people and hiding the details about their disagreement, show that they do not respect the people and the principles of democracy.

As we see, they are continually talking about democracy, and how good they are at creating a model of democracy in the Kurdish region! If they really believe in democracy, if they really respect the principles of democracy, they should accept a democratic solution. They should accept to share power with others. They should leave the decision to the Kurdistan people. That means they have to be agree and prepare to holding a fair election, where the people have a chance to elect their own representatives and the new legitimate united government. Only through an election could there be found a justified solution.

The Kurdish people are demanding that and the Kurdish case needs that. The time is running out, now it's late, tomorrow is very late.