



Panorama

Report on Baghdad Conference Terrorist MEK to be expelled from Iraq

Iran Interlink, Baghdad, November 25 2011

http://iran-interlink.org

A Conference in Baghdad University on Friday 25 November was organised by Al-Edalat Al-Iraqi Society, headed by Dr Nafe Al-Isa, which represents the families of 25,000 Iraqi victims of the MEK.



The Conference was held in Al-Hakim Conference Centre in Baghdad University and hundreds of tribal leaders, University lecturers, Governmental representatives and officials, NGOs and media representatives filled the salon. Although Camp Ashraf and the MEK is an issue specific to the government and citizens of Iraq, the Conference organisers made sure to invite Western agencies, such as the UN, EU and diplomats who have claimed or expressed an interest in Camp Ashraf. Unfortunately, however, any such invitees were apparently unable to leave the Green Zone to attend the Conference and talk to the delegates.

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Open letter of Mrs. Batoul Maleki to Iraqi Ambassador in Switzerland

Mr. Ambassador of Iraq in Switzerland,

My name is Batul Maleki and I am the former member of pmoi(People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran), I am currently living in Switzerland.



Batoul Maleki

Mr. Ambassador:

There was an anti - monarchy revolution in 1979 in my country, Iran. The people who took over the government then , did not pay attention to the people's requests and needs so the revolution path was deviated and derailed.

At that time the pmoi which its leader became Massoud Rajavi, was eagerly in search of gaining power in the government and as a result of that the pmoi leadership took violent position against Iranian government which helped them who were waiting to massacre all the opponents. Pmoi with this illogical and violent positions and by starting the arm struggle against Iranian government, they annihilated the only freedom atmosphere which was accessible then and they caused to beget massacre and suppression in both sides.

Massoud Rajavi and his wife Maryam Ghajar Azdanlo who both later became the leaders of pmoi outside of Iran , they converted their organization to a very dangerous religious cult.

At this path of digression and metamorphosis,

-They caused inter Continued on Page 12

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Opening the Conference, Dr Nafe, speaking on behalf of the families of victims of MEK violence, asked that those MEK leaders who were responsible for this violence be



brought to justice before their deportation.

Speakers from the government and NGOs all emphasized that the deadline for deportation must be strictly adhered to and that Iraqi and international law against terrorism and crime must be upheld. Other speakers, in particular the tribal leaders spoke about the MEK's crimes which they have witnessed in recent years in Diyala province.



mittee to oversee the expulsion of the MEK announced in the Conference that the deadline would not be extended and that the camp will be closed by the end of the year. He also explained that the Iraqi Judiciary had issued its final verdict that the camp should be closed and the land handed back to the original owners.

Mr Al- Shahmani also criticized the West for its silence toward the crimes committed by the group against civilians, and asked international communities not to remain silent in the case of the abuse of the rights of the families of the victims of the MEK.

... Mr Adnan Al-Shahmani, head of the Parliamentary Committee to oversee the expulsion of the MEK announced in the Conference that the deadline would not be extended and that the camp will be closed by the end of the year. He also explained that the Iraqi Judiciary had issued its final verdict that the camp should be closed... Mr Al- Shahmani also criticized the West for its silence toward the crimes committed by the group against civilians, and asked international communities not to remain silent in the case of the abuse of the rights of the families of the victims of the MEK ...

They were highly critical of the failure of the American military to dismantle the camp after 2003, and were scathing of the continued American backing which allowed the camp to be used for training and inciting terrorism against Iraqis.

On this theme, Jasem Al- Ebadi, Member of Parliament and member of the parliamentary Human Rights Commission used his speech to criticise EU efforts to keep the terrorist group intact and their opposition to the deportation process. He commented that if they are so in love with this terrorist group, why don't they take them to their own countries?

Mr Adnan Al-Shahmani, head of the Parliamentary Com-



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Mr Al-Shahmani also met with the representatives of the families of hostages inside Camp Ashraf and the delegation from European countries who are campaigning to ensure a peaceful outcome to the standoff at the camp.

Massoud Khodabandeh, from Middle East Strategy Consultants which is working with the Iraqi government to resolve the situation at Camp Ashraf, introduced his book 'The Life of Camp Ashraf – Mojahedin-e Khalq Victims of Many Masters' to the Conference. The book places the MEK in the context of its foreign ownership and concludes that these owners have invested heavily in the MEK's ability to commit acts of violence and terrorism, and that this is the reason for western resistance to closing the camp. The book particularly highlights the MEK's refusal to allow residents of the camp to have contact with their immediate families as a fundamental human rights abuse of every person in the camp.



Ms Abdollahi represented the families and asked for help to release the hostages (including her own son) from the camp. Ms Abdollahi reminded the Conference that the families' struggle to find their relatives had been going on since 2003 and that a permanent picket had been established two years ago. She stressed that when searching for a solution the families of course have the security and safety of all the residents as their utmost priority. The families have the simplest and easily granted request - to visit their loved ones who are in the camp. This does not depend on the removal of the MEK from Iraq and would be simple to do. The only barrier to this request is the order of the MEK leaders Massoud and Maryam Rajavi. They can easily resolve this issue by ordering that the families of MEK members be allowed to have free and unfettered contact with their loved ones.

Ms Sanjabi is an ex-member of the MEK's women only



Leadership Council. She managed to escape from Camp Ashraf very recently, and explained the dire situation of the women inside the camp, detailing disturbing and shocking human rights abuses which are currently being carried out against the residents by the MEK leaders.

Ms Mahdian, whose husband is a hostage inside the camp, explained how Saddam's Intelligence services gave her husband to the MEK as a slave, even though he had been and is still a registered POW, captured at the start of the Iran-Iraq war. Ms Mahdian explained that her son has not seen his father for the past 25 years and the MEK would not allow this visit even after two years of picketing.



Mr Sadeghi from Germany, who is one of the few members who managed to run away from the camp successfully during the time of Saddam Hussein, presented and explained evidence of recent MEK interference in the internal affairs of Iraq, their collaboration with Saddamists and other terrorist groups, and the MEK's active role in intensifying the insurgency.

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Another ex-MEK member, Mr Ezati who now lives in the Netherlands, gave interviews to the media explaining the situation inside the camp and the constant abuse of human rights of the victims. Mr Ezati strongly criticized the unfortunate media silence over these human rights abuses which he ascribed to the pervasive influence of the MEK's powerful backers who regard the MEK as "good terrorists".

Tens of ex-MEK members who work with Nejat Association in Iran, also attended the Conference and were interviewed by the media. They explained that Nejat Association, which works closely with the families of the hostages, now has the capacity to help those survivors who wish to do so, to go back to their country under the amnesty which was granted by the Iranian authorities in 2003 (which is

Conference attendees were particularly interested in the testimony of three recently escaped camp residents who gave full and detailed explanations to the media about the harsh reality of being a captive inside Camp Ashraf. They spoke about the total information blackout and social and emotional isolation they experienced



Mr Ghashghavi also from Germany, served eight years without trial in Saddam's prisons including Abu Ghraib for refusing to carry out Massoud Rajavi's orders to commit criminal acts. Mr Ghashghavi explained how Rajavi and Saddam would force people to either kill others or be sent to the torture chambers themselves and be killed.

based on the understanding that the MEK members have been subjected to the coercion and control of cult leaders) and which to date has been upheld under the supervision of the ICRC.

Conference attendees were particularly interested in the testimony of three recently escaped camp residents who gave full and detailed explanations to the media about the harsh reality of being a captive inside Camp Ashraf. They spoke about the total information blackout and social and emotional isolation they experienced there. They emphasized that the leaders and the hostage takers lie constantly to the residents so that the captives have no idea about the outside world. They are made to believe that the MEK leaders are directly supported by the Americans and that if they tried to escape the camp they would be immediately shot, or now, after being tortured by the Iraqis they would be handed over to Iran to be executed without trial. They said that if they were given the true facts and information, there is not one person in the camp who would still want to stay in the desert of Iraq nearly nine years after disarmament. They urged international organizations, especially the US representatives and UNAMI, who are the only organizations with close relations with the hostage takers, to take advantage of their weekly meetings inside Camp Ashraf with the hostage takers, to persuade them to open

During their visit to

Mojahedin-e Khalq cemetery and Camp Ashraf



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organisation pretending to be a legal expert, promoting the punishment of the ex-members wherever they could be found. He always referred to the cult leader's fatwa that 'the people who have managed to run away from the cult have to be killed...'

Two of the victims who have been directly tortured by Nader Rafi'ee Nejad are Mohammad Hussein Sobhani and Ali Ghashghavi. In the picture above, they are standing beside the grave of their former torturer. Both men were sent to Abu Ghraib political prison by Massoud Rajavi after extensive imprisonment, isolation and torture inside the

Two of the victims who have been directly tortured by Nader Rafi'ee Nejad are Mohammad Hussein Sobhani and Ali Ghashghavi. In the picture above, they are standing beside the grave of their former torturer. Both men were sent to Abu Ghraib political prison by Massoud Rajavi after extensive imprisonment, isolation and torture inside the MEK's own prisons failed to force them to submit to Rajavi.

up the flow of information and convince them to give people the right to family visits as well as normal means of communication such as writing and telephones, etc.

These recently escaped hostages also urged UNAMI not to present the hostage takers as the representatives of the hostages in the media outputs. Instead they should be clear that Rajavi is no one's representative and as long as the negotiators have not met with the hostages without the presence of the MEK commanders - the hostage takers - outside the camp, they have no right to claim anything on their behalf. They said they believe that UNAMI and the American backers of the cult are in breach of international law for siding with the terrorists as these are people who have abused the human rights of over 3000 people for decades. The survivors of Camp Ashraf are now taking legal advice to claim compensation for their suffering and losses from the MEK leaders.

MEK's own prisons failed to force them to submit to Rajavi. Rafi'ee Nejad frequently visited them even when they were in Abu Ghraib. They were released during the fall of Saddam in 2003. There were over 50 registered ex-MEK prisoners in Abu Ghraib at that time labelled as a group as "Mojahedin Deposits".

Remembering the brutality of Rajavi's torturers and prisons, both victims of Rajavi and Saddam prayed for forgiveness for their torturer.



The Iranian Pen Club

During their visit to

Mojahedin-e Khalq cemetery and Camp Ashraf

victims prayed for forgiveness for their torturer

Iran Interlink, Camp Ashraf, Iraq, December 11 2011 http://iran-interlink.org

The MEK cemetery was previously inaccessible as it lay inside the former boundaries of Camp Ashraf. Following the Iraqi military operation to reclaim illegally held land from the MEK in April 2011, the cemetery is now open to view and to independent investigation.

Families and former MEK members arriving at the ceme-





This is a memorial to the MEK who died in the MEK's Operation Pearl in Iraqi Kurdistan in which Rajavi took orders from Saddam to massacre Kurdish villagers. Maryam Rajavi famously ordered her forces to run over the victims with their tanks so as not to waste bullets unnecessarily. The MEK, acting as Saddam's Private Army, were used to viciously quell the Kurdish uprisings in the north.

In the south in 1991 the MEK were also used to suppress Shiite uprisings. This picture is a memorial to three of the top MEK commanders killed by the people of Karbala during the Shiite uprising when they took over Saddam's Secret services HQ in

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tery led by Mr Hassan Azizi a veteran former member. He spent years struggling to get himself and his children out. Still later his wife also managed to escape. The family now live in the Netherlands. Mr. Azizi was part of the European delegation recently visiting Iraq and the Camp.

the province. The bodies were never recovered. The three central graves are flanked by the graves of Neda Hassani and Sediqeh Mojaveri who died as a result of self-immolation ordered by Maryam Rajavi to protest her arrest by French antiterrorism police at Auvers-sur-Oise in 2003.

Before the Iraqis gained control of the cemetery Rajavi had

ordered that the pictures of the graves in the whole graveyard be mixed up so they do not correspond to the names on the graves. Perhaps only Rajavi can explain his motive for such a bizarre act.

The Iraqis have reported however that some of the graves have been found to contain more bodies than the single named person indicated on the headstones.

Ex members identified many graves of people who have been killed in the hands of the leaders of the organisation.

Among the graves they also found the grave of Nader Rafi'ee Nejad

The grave of Nader Rafi'ee Nejad

Nader Rafi'ee Nejad acted as a torturer for the Mojahedin-e Khalq leader Massoud Rajavi. He was a veteran member of the MEK who, along with Reza Khaksar (later killed during an armed clash in 1981) and Hassan Mohassel (a former police officer and later a guard in the MEK's pris-



ons in Iraq), served with the Revolutionary Court in Evin prison after the Iranian revolution.

After the armed struggle began in 1981, Rafi'ee Nejad fled to Europe and was appointed to the MEK's foreign relations department. In 1985, he was introduced as a leading member and in 1991 as deputy to an executive board in the MEK. In 1990, he shed his 'diplomatic' suit and donned the uniform for jailors of the MEK in Iraq.

In that year, he attended a course with Iraq's intelligence and security service to undergo classic training by Iraqi interrogators.



Rafi'ee Nejad interrogated and tortured former officials of the ousted regime of Shah. Due to the MEK's pursuit of its own radical policies after 1980, Rafi'ee Nejad, Mohassel and Khaksar were later dismissed from the Revolutionary Court by the government of the Islamic Republic at that time.

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He was involved in torturing Mohammed Hussein Sobhani and also the killing of Parviz Ahmadi who died under torture.

In recent years after the fall of Saddam, Nader Rafi'ee Nejad frequently appeared on the clandestine satellite TV station of the Continued on Page 5

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ADVT's Letter to Executive Director of UN Women

Women in Mojahedin Khalq (MKO, MEK, Rajavi cult)

ADVT, December 05 2011

http://edalatjusticesociety.com/pageseng/?id=2299

In a letter to Ms. Michelle Bachelet, Executive Director of UN Women, Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism depicted the deplorable condition of women in Mojahedin-e Khalq cult.



Dear Ms. Michelle Bachelet:

Executive Director of UN Women

There is a global consensus on the necessity of implementation of the rights of women and the establishment of justice, equity, freedom and dignity for them. However, despite all the efforts made for this purpose, there are still many women who undergo violence and discrimination just for being female. In this regard, the approaches adopted by some cults towards women are the source of the worst types of oppression

has raised many concerns is the way of treating women in this cult. Leaders of this terrorist cell have deprived their female members from the rights of marriage, having child, loving their family members, using cosmetics or choosing their own way of life. The surprising point is that women even do not have the right to think about the opposite gender and the violators of this law would deserve prison and punishment. This is while Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights asserts "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

... Revealing the sufferings of the families of terrorism victims, Association for Defending Victims of terrorism intends to prevent the innocent men and women from being deceptively recruited by terrorist groups like al-Qaeda and Mojahedin-e Khalq. The deplorable situation of 1000 female residents of Ashraf Camp hurts the hearts of all liberals and women' rights supporters. Therefore, we would like to ask your Excellency to immediately take the necessary steps for returning the imprisoned women of MKO to the bosom of their society and family and avoid their further brain washing by the cruel leaders of Mojahedin-e Khalq cult ...

against them. Based on international reports and documents (including German Federal Office 2003, FBI 2004, Human Rights Watch 2005, RAND 2009, US Department of State 2009, 2010 annual report of the Human Rights Office of UN Assistance Mission in Iraq,...) and the confessions of Mojahedin-e Khalq's (MKO/MEK/PMOI) defected members, this terrorist cult is one of the worst violator of women's rights. We, the members of the Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism of Middle East consider it necessary to draw the attention of the officials of international institutions to the crimes being committed against women in Mojahedin-e Khalq cult. May the preparations for the release of the members of this group be made and all of them specially women can return to their families.

Involuntary divorce: a report issued by American National Defense Institute (RAND) reads:" As a part of the "ideological revolution," the Rajavis mandated divorce and celibacy. Compulsory divorce required couples to place their wedding rings in a bowl and renounce their affections for one another." However, the rules do not apply to the leaders. This is while section 1 of the Article 16 of the Universal Declaration of human Rights says "Men and women of full age, without any limitation due to race, nationality or religion, have the right to marry and to found a family." Since 1985 no one has got married in this cult and this right just applies for the leader. However based on Massoud Rajavi's decree, all females belong to him and they should not think about any other men.

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Separating children from their parents: Most of the female members of the MKO, who had a child before entering into the group, handed over their children to the organization and promised to never think about them. After separating children from their parents, the organization transfers children to other countries and relocates them in charity institutes and through introducing them as orphans raises fund.

Gender separation: Despite MeK's claim of supporting gender equality and giving leadership roles to women, men and women are kept strictly apart in MeK camps. Housing is segregated by gender, and in other buildings, lines are painted down the middle of hallways, separating them into men's and women's sides. The MeK holds daily, weekly, and monthly "sessions" that involve forced public con-



(Maryam Rajavi directly ordered the massacre of Kurdish people)

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fessions aimed at expelling deviant thoughts and behaviors that are believed to undermine group coherence.

Denying the Right to Motherhood: Referring to the prohibition against giving birth since 1985, defected members of the organization disclosed that most of the female members involuntarily gone under hysterectomy surgery.

Self-immolation: applying brainwashing and mind-manipulation techniques, MKO leads members to death. One of the evidences is the self- immolations of 2003 in which three female members of the MKO (Marzieh Babakhani, Seddigheh Mojaveri and Neda Hassani) set themselves on fire. One of them was 25 years old.

Revealing the sufferings of the families of terrorism victims, Association for Defending Victims of terrorism intends to prevent the innocent men and women from being deceptively recruited by terrorist groups like al-Qaeda and Mojahedin-e Khalq. The deplorable situation of 1000 female residents of Ashraf Camp hurts the hearts of all liberals and women' rights supporters. Therefore, we would like to ask your Excellency to immediately take the necessary steps for returning the imprisoned women of MKO to the bosom of their

society and family and avoid their further brain washing by the cruel leaders of Mojahedin-e Khalq cult.

The Iranian Pen Club



ICRI in Iraq: situation remains uncertain for residents of Camp Ashraf

International Committee of the Red Cross, December 13 2011

http://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents

/interview/2011/iraq-interview-2011-12-09.htm

13-12-2011 Interview

Camp Ashraf, 80 km north-east of Baghdad, is home to over 3,000 Iranian nationals who belong to the People's Mujahed-din Organization of Iran. In recent months, the Iraqi authorities have repeatedly said that they intend to close the camp at the end of 2011. Beat Schweizer, head of the ICRC delegation in Iraq, explains the ICRC's role and response.

The Iraqi authorities have said they will close the camp at the end of 2011. What is the ICRC's view on this?



The ICRC will continue to call on all concerned to exercise restraint and to comply with applicable law. One legal requirement is that any use of force be in accordance with internationally-recognised principles governing law-enforcement operations. And respect for human

... The ICRC is prepared to visit anyone from Camp Ashraf whom the Iraqi authorities may detain. We would assess their conditions of detention and treatment, and would help them restore contact with their relatives, through Red Cross messages for instance. The ICRC is already making regular visits to detainees in Iraq, and we would assist any detained persons from Ashraf Camp in the same way. In 2009, the ICRC visited 36 Ashraf residents detained by the Iraqi authorities. In April 2011, the ICRC visited six people arrested in relation with clashes between Iraqi security forces and residents of the camp ...

The ICRC welcomes the Iraqi authorities' commitment not to transfer Camp Ashraf residents to Iran against their will, and will continue to monitor the situation, to ensure that the Iraqi authorities fulfil this commitment. The ICRC will also continue to insist that the authorities meet their obligation to preserve the dignity, physical well-being and mental well-being of the camp's residents. While it is true that the residents of camp Ashraf must comply with Iraqi laws and regulations, it is also true that the Iraqi authorities must ensure respect for these people's fundamental rights, just as they would for anyone else on Iraqi territory. Furthermore, the Iraqi authorities must ensure that the residents of Camp Ashraf have access to such basic services as food, water and medical care, under all circumstances.

I must emphasize that the ICRC is not part of any mechanism to close down the camp or transfer its residents, and we are not going to be.

What will the ICRC do if force is used to transfer Camp Ashraf's residents?

dignity must be maintained whatever happens.

What will the ICRC do if residents are arrested?

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In 2009, the ICRC visited 36 Ashraf residents detained by the Iraqi authorities. In April 2011, the ICRC visited six people arrested in relation with clashes between Iraqi security forces and residents of the camp. The authorities released those six people shortly after detaining them.

What is the ICRC doing for residents of Camp Ashraf who are seeking asylum and want to be resettled in a third country?

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Three Ashraf Residents Escape the Cult of Rajavi

Three Ashraf Residents Escape the Cult of Rajavi

We have been facilitating the repatriation of former residents of Camp Ashraf who wish to go back to Iran. Since 2003, the ICRC has arranged for the repatriation of over 250 Camp Ashraf residents to their home country, in cooperation with its delegation in Tehran. The ICRC has helped repatriate seven former residents in 2011 so far, with the most recent repatriation taking place in August.

The ICRC is prepared to continue helping repatriate residents of Camp Ashraf to Iran at the request of the people concerned, with their full consent, and in agreement with both the Iraqi and the Iranian authorities. If residents of the camp want to seek asylum or resettlement in a third country, the ICRC will refer them to UNHCR. We may offer direct help in certain cases, for instance by issuing travel documents once the authorities of a particular country have agreed to take a person. The ICRC can also facilitate contact with relatives abroad.

What was the ICRC's response to last April's clashes between Iraqi forces and residents of the camp?

The ICRC maintained constant dialogue with the Iraqi authorities, in an effort to ensure that the use of force by law-enforcement personnel conformed to the standards that govern law-enforcement operations. We also dispatched kits of dressing material to Baquba Hospital, where casualties obtained treatment, and visited six residents arrested by the Iraqi authorities during the clashes.

What is the current situation in Camp Ashraf?

The ICRC has not made any visits to Camp Ashraf recently. The situation there is being monitored by the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq.

The ICRC remains committed to providing independent, humanitarian assistance to the residents and their families. While we have no precise figures, the population of the camp is estimated at over 3,200.



Sahar Family Foundation, December 04 2011

translated by Nejat Society

http://www.nejatngo.org/en/post.aspx?id=4047

On Friday December 2nd, 2011, three residents of Ashraf Garrison escaped their headquarters and submitted to Iraqi forces. They then joined the families picketing in front of Camp Ashraf, in Azadi installation. Family members of one of the defectors were among the picketing families.

He said that he had heard his sister's voice via loudspeakers and had recognized her. Thus he was encouraged to endanger his life and ran away.

"Thank God, I could release myself' he said. He hugged and kissed his brother and sister. The three escapees were warmly welcomed by the families who had tears of happiness in their eyes.

The defectors said that a lot of Ashraf residents are waiting for an opportunity to flee the camp and set themselves free.

The names of the new separated members will be soon published if they are willing to

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organizational clean up , imprisonment and incarceration and slaying of the dissidents .

- -The pmoi members were forced to experience the forcible collective divorce.
- -The children got separated from their parents and they were sent to European and American countries to different families or they were sent to the pmoi different bases. Those children were forced to do forced labor. Pmoi was taking their money ,which was designated to them by the host countries , and they put it in their own pockets. This extortion is another story which I do not intend to mention it now.
- -The members of this organization have been under severe and permanent brainwashing and religious indoctrination and the dissidents in this organization have been severely mistreated, suppressed, beaten up, imprisoned and slain.
- -The marriage in this notorious cult has been declared forbidden since 20 year ago and recent separated members of this cult have announced that Massoud Rajavi, the spiritual leader of this cult has taken advantage of the married women sexually in his Harem in this cult.
- -Watching TV, listening to the radio , reading newspaper and anything which upgrades the intelligence among the members are forbidden.

There are lots of other problems which exist in this cult but it is impossible to mention all in this letter.

At this moment Rajavi has taken his own members as hostages inside the Ashraf camp and does not allow them to choose what they want and even he does not allow them to meet their parents and relatives who have come from Iran to visit them.

Mr. Ambassador,

I as a human rights activist and as a critic and dissident of this cult would like to thank your government because of the expulsion of this organization from Iraq soil which is in your government agenda for the end of 2011. I hope this expulsion causes the release of those stranded members.

I think that the most important step in this mission is to arrest the pmoi leaders and the operatives at first to free the stranded members. Maryam Rajavi wants to prevent the Iraqi government from its national sovereignty right upon Ashraf as well as entering the camp by begetting bloodshed and carnage and mass destruction.

Recently, some of the former members of this organization in Europe from Germany, England, Netherland came to Iraq to visit the families of those stranded members. I would like to thank your country and your government for providing such



facility.

Respectfully

Batul Maleki /Switzerland

16-12-2011



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