



The situation for the Iranian ex-Northern Iraqi refugees in Turkey is critical. There are 470 political cases, about 1200 people; men, women and children calls Iranian ex-Northern Iraqi refugees. These people are in turkey waiting for the UN to send them to a third and safer country that will accept them as quota refugees.

These people arrived in Turkey from Northern Iraq about 4 or 5 years ago and were granted the status of refugees by the UN at the end of 2004 and the start of 2005. In spite of this none of them were flown out of Iraq to settle in countries that would accept them as quota refugees.

Their situation as political refugees in Turkey is critical. Several human rights organizations and political organizations have informed the UN about their situation. In the summer of 2005 40 of the refugees went on a hunger strike that lasted for a month. Only after a request from the UN about meeting their demands did they agreed to stop the hunger strike.

The UN and representatives from the refugees have had several discussions about the case, but so far the refugees have not been satisfied with the results. They feel that the UN does not express any clear intentions of solving their problems.

We as Komala ask the following:

1. In the last discussion the representative from the UN said they were still working on finding a solution to the problem. For now 30 or 40 people are scheduled to be sent to a third country for medical reasons and some for security reasons. This is 30 to 40 cases. It is a positive thing for these 30 to 40 people, but it is not a solution for all 1200 people. Many of the refugees are ill, small children or tired people who need lasting protection, medical treatment, schooling and a new life outside Turkish borders. They simply have nothing to do in Turkey.
2. We hope that the UN has a plan for a hasty processing of all these people's cases, not only the dying and critically ill. These groups of people are suffering from many different problems. We hope you save them from the inhumane situation in Turkey as quickly as possible. They are mistreated by the Turkish police, as you surely know, because they are Kurds. They do not have the money necessary to renew their ID papers. Turkish authorities charge several hundred dollars to renew these papers every year. They do not have enough money to send their children to school because the children will then need lunch and school material. They can not afford medicine and they live in rotten and mouldy apartments. They can not even afford food. It is completely unacceptable and a breach of human rights.
3. They need help to pay for sustenance, rent and medicine. The UN has helped them financially on a few occasions, but this is not enough. People who are given protection by the UN must automatically also receive financial help. The UN can not deny them the necessary financial aid to pay for livelihood, rent and medical treatment. This is in conflict with UN conventions and we demand a speedy processing of this case.

4. The UN's plans. These refugees have an uncertain future. Children are growing up without going to school; the elderly are suffering both physically and mentally. Families are split apart because they have no means of supporting themselves. The UN need to have clear opinions on Their stay in Turkey and answer questions from the refugees. The UN need to establish a commission to investigate the situation for these people.

On behalf of 1200 people called the Iranian ex-Northern Iraqi refugees, we again ask the UN to find a humane solution to this problem and to make sure these people are not forgotten. Enclosed: Appeal and a declaration of support from hundreds of activists and several organizations and parties, in Kurd, Persian and English.

Jafar Ilkhanizadeh

Komala Party's Representative Abroad

Tel: +46-224-86149
Mobile: +46-736256320
FAX: +46-224-86149

Mail: jafar.ilkhani@komala.org

<http://www.komala.org>

Sweden