

24th Annual Kurdish National
Congress of North America Kurdistan
Conference May 12-13, 2012

The Road To Achieve Kurdish
National Right Is Through Unity
Asad Khailany, KNC Founder

Welcome

- First of all I would like welcome you to our 24th KNC Conference & to salute all our Kurdistan people for their determinations to achieve their national and human rights in all parts of Kurdistan.

Dream & Reality

- Volteer, the French Philosopher said “A man is free whenever he wants to be”.
We say reality is “A Nation is free whenever the nation wants to be”.
- Some say, “Independent Kurdistan is a dream”. **We Say “A Dream You Believe it is a Reality”.**

The Road To make our Dream A Reality

- Kurdistan Independency can be achieved through **unity, peaceful struggle and processes**. The era of nations achieving their independency through arm struggles, and terrorist activities has passed.

Speaking In One voice

- Since 2001 All Kurdish Leaderships In Southern Kurdistan political or non political realized the important of Unity, and speaking in one voice in Baghdad & in international conferences, and meetings with foreign governments. That unity lead them to achieve significant achievements in short period of time.

Our Kurdish Nation in other parts in Kurdistan

- We ask our nation in other parts of Kurdistan to unite, and speak in one voice to achieve Kurdish national & human rights.

Successes In Southern Kurdistan

- The Kurdish people in all parts of Kurdistan are proud by the successes in southern Kurdistan.
- Economic independence is one of the corner stone of independent free Kurdistan. Currently Southern Kurdistan is economically independent.

More Successes In Southern Kurdistan

- The economical, political, social, & other success of our Kurdish nation in Southern Kurdistan internationally recognized.
- The success of KRG (Kurdistan Regional Government) proved that the Kurdish nation and its leaderships are committed to democratic processes & peaceful solutions for all problems

Internationally Recognized Achievements In Southern Kurdistan

- Booming Economy.
- Business Opportunities
- Improving Education
- New constructions for universities, high schools & elementary schools
- Freedom of News Media: Newspapers, TV & Radio Stations
- Building Highways, and Other Roads.

More Achievements

- Improving Women's Rights
- Recognizing minorities Rights
- Birth Of Real Opposition
- Constructing Public Parks
- Improving Health facilities
- New Construction: Hotels , Shopping Plaza,..etc

Current Demands of Kurdish Political Parties

The demands of all Kurdish political parties are at least Federation of Kurdistan parts within the countries Kurdistan has been divided into. You do not hear from any political party that does not want a one unified great Kurdistan. But this demand is missing from rhetoric's of almost all political parties nowadays, for different reasons. But mostly, today's political demands are casted more intellectually rather than big slogans with not clear vision of their achievements.

Birth of real opposition

- There are advantages in the number of political parties that we have in Kurdistan, the greatest is the birth of a real opposition as we have seen in the last three years in southern Kurdistan. The credible parties can gain the traction while the less active ones loose their audience.

- The stability and the progress toward the democracy and prosperity, which have been achieved through unity in southern Kurdistan it is the pride of all people of Kurdistan. Having said that does not mean that we have a perfect system in southern Kurdistan. There are still hard works, and long way ahead of us to achieve the dream of our people.

Some Disappoints

1. In last decade in southern Kurdistan we lost golden opportunities to declare independent Kurdistan Republic.
2. We failed to force the Iraqi government to abide by article 140.
3. Corruption is a big problem & More efforts should be devoted to fight it.
4. Nepotism is wide spread
5. Peoples who do not belong to some political parties, or tribes have less chance to find jobs or get business opportunity

Current Political Parties in Southern Kurdistan

- There are more than 25 political parties registered in southern Kurdistan with a variety of slogans and goals.
- The main two political parties are PUK and KDP with a lion's share of more than 60% of the Parliament Delegates. Then comes Yekgirtui Islamni (Islamic Union), Gorran, and Komeli Islami.

Religious Parties in Southern Kurdistan

Islamic Political parties

1. United Islam of Kurdistan (یه‌ک‌گرتوی ئیسلامی کوردستان),
2. Islam Kurdistan Group (کۆمەڵی ئیسلامی کوردستان) and
3. Kurdistan Islam Movement (پزوتنه‌وه‌ی ئیسلامی له کوردستان) and other smaller parties.

Some Christian parties, Yezidies & others

1. Assyrian Democratic Movement
2. Kurdistan Christian Unity of Sarkis Aghajan
3. Democratic Christians
4. Kaldo-Ashur Communist Party

More Political Parties

1. Kurdistan Toilers Party (حیزبی زەحمەتکێشانی کوردستان)
2. Kurdistan Free Democratic Party (حیزبی دیموکراتی کوردستان (سەر بەخۆی
3. Kurdistan Toilers Democratic Party (حیزبی زەحمەتکێشانی دیموکراتی کوردستان)
4. Kurdistan Communist Party (حیزبی شیوعی کوردستان)

These are of the leftist nature and mixed with some nationalist motions.

5. There are also Turkmen parties as well

The Question IS:

- We all know our long, costly struggle for an Independent Kurdistan for more than a century has been unsuccessful.
- The question is: Why did such a costly, long struggle not succeed? In my opinion, the following are some of the reasons why Kurdistan people could not obtain their self-determination rights:

Reasons why Kurdistan people so far couldn't take its self-determination right?

1. Lack of education. It is much harder to colonize, and subdue literate nations than illiterate nations. Kurdistan People were scientifically and politically illiterate.

We need change & Change we can do it; Obama

- All Kurdistan political parties, and Kurdistan national movements should declare their commitments to achieve Kurdish national, and human rights including independent Kurdistan through peaceful struggle, and processes such massive civil disobediences.

Just Imagine

- Look at the effects of the Arab Spring Uprising. Imagine: What will be the effects of 20 million or more Kurds declaring civil disobediences peacefully in northern Kurdistan on Turkish military mentality, and the world?
- Imagine: What will be the effects of 8 million or more people involved in civil disobediences in Eastern Kurdistan on Mullahs, Ayatollahs, and the world?

Just Imagine

- Imagine: What will be the effects of 4 million or more Kurdish people declaring civil disobedience in Western Kurdistan on the Syrian Baathist racist regime, and the world?

Yes We Could Do It

- Yes, to have effects we need news coverage.
- Yes, we could spread the news of the civil disobediences of the people of Kurdistan all around the world. Just imagine if masses of teachers, students of universities, high schools, elementary schools, intellectuals, or semi intellectual Kurdistanis committed to:

Yes We Could Do It

- Utilizing internet, Facebook and other social and communication media, such as radio, Tv, .. etc to spread the news of civil mass disobediences in all parts of Kurdistan.

- Currently there is only one super power, the United States of America. No part of Kurdistan will be an independent country unless the U.S. sees that creating such an entity will be in its interest. The U.S. interest in Middle East can be describe in two words: “Oil and stability”.

The road To Independent Kurdistan

- The Kurdish nation is one of the main allies of the U.S.A. Therefore, the road to an independent Kurdistan starts at Washington D.C.

The Road To Persuade The U.S.

- Creating a strong Kurdistan professional lobby in Washington D. C.
- Support American Kurdish organizations such as Kurdish National Congress of North America, Washington Kurdish Institute, Kurdish Human Rights, and other American Kurdish educational, cultural, art & Music organizations.
- Extend grants to American universities to establish Kurdish programs, to conduct research related to Kurdish issues, Kurdish Language, Kurdish literature, ..etc

Other Parts of Kurdistan

- Currently there are golden opportunities for our nation in Eastern, and Western Kurdistan to achieve its national and human rights. It is our duty to take advantages of these new opportunities.
- American People no longer consider Turkey to be a trusted ally. They are discovering the love and loyalty of Kurdish people to them.

We Need Change & Change we can make it

- Education.
- Unity
- Adopting Democratic principles in all levels including the organizations of Kurdistan political parties in all levels.
- Economical Prosperity
- Eliminating the unnecessary waste of the Kurdistan Wealth
- Fighting the corruption of all kind in all levels
- Wisely using the wealth of Kurdistan.
- Creating strong professional Kurdish lobbies in Washington D. C.

We need Changes

- Political & Social Culture it is too autocratic (same people in power-no change).
- Lack of cooperation between Kurds.
- Jealous of each other. They try to demean the achievements of others other than themselves.
- Hung up on their images, not ready to accept many of the jobs. They do not want to work.
- Blaming others.
- People to depend on themselves.
- Land locked surrounded by enemies.
- Lack of education

Reasons Why Kurdistan Is not Independent

- This was my presentation in 15th. KNC national conference. Details of my presentation is posted on my website:

http://www.emunix.emich.edu/~khailany/files/KNC_Speech_2002.ppt

- We failed to persuade our U.S. government that Independent Kurdistan is in the interest of the U.S. and international stability.

The Road To Independence and KNC

- Kurdistan Parties and organizations should full heartily Support KNC. Why?
- KNC can have a role which can not be performed by political parties.
- We can raise issues which Kurdish political parties can not raise. Examples of such issues which I raised in meeting with president Bush and in Iraqi opposition conferences.

The Road To Independence and KNC - continued

- Help to make KNC realize the goals which were adopted in the first and second KNC Conferences to become a true umbrella organization representing all Kurds in all parts of Kurdistan.