



The Social Democratic Party of Kurdistan

Parti socialdemokrati Kurdistan (rojhelat)

The first announcement of the Social Democratic Party of Kurdistan (PSDK)

As an ancient nation within the area, we the Kurds are proud of being amongst those that have fought and still fight not only for our freedom but also for the benefit of other nations. Our history is full of massacres, atrocities, exploitation and other sorts of injustice administered by colonial states against us. However at the same time the Kurdish movements have been peaceful and have done much in the way of keeping the conflict at the level between the Kurds and the surrounding states, and not between the Kurds and other nations at large.

Unfortunately, the colonial states have indeed brought up their people with a mentality that is racist, violent and spiritually unfriendly. The picture of the Kurds has always been one that depicts a people that are wild, uneasy, troublesome and harsh. Unfortunately this doctrine is still being applied today to give the perception of the Kurds being "ugly".

In Turkey, the state and the official ideology complains as to why the Kurds cannot accept the fate of being Turkish and Turkish assimilation. In Iran we are told that we are the "ancient Iranians" and therefore there exists no need for some rights, while in Iraq and Syria we are always regarded as "Moslem brothers" that should not need any rights.

The history of the Kurds are therefore dose not differ much from the colonized people in Africa, Asia and elsewhere. The exploitation, extermination, discrimination, deportation and other sorts of injustice are almost identical. We all have a great likeness: None of us is a free man.

Our fate of not being educated, of not having a direct relation with Europe, of not having a chance to narrate our own stories by ourselves has held us back and has long been used as a completing factor by the colonization mechanism that these states use against us. These states that colonize Kurdistan are amongst those that have a history of leading the list as buyers of weapons, of dictatorship and sometimes even fascist. Whatever the nature of the regimes, they all have been harsh and intolerant against The Kurds.

Kurdistan is a rich land and despite all the hardships and difficulties in terms of economic and human loss, its wealth does not diminish. The Kurds tradition of resistance to servitude has, due to many factors, been limited and therefore despite its willingness to achieve a positive change, results have been unsuccessful.

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We, Parti socialdemokrati Kurdistan PSDK (*The Social Democratic Party of Kurdistan*), during our Constitutional Meeting of 19 April 2008 decided to start our political campaign geared to participating in the Kurdistan national liberation struggle in the Iranian Kurdistan, as stated in our political literature for the *East Kurdistan*, "Rojhelat".

We do believe in a peaceful political solution and encourage dialogue and a non-violent path to achieve our goal of a free Kurdistan and an equal progressive society.

We do believe in brotherhood of nations and coexistence of mankind based on mutual interest and respect. Our political struggle will take place in Eastern Kurdistan, but we will naturally strive for friendship and cooperation with other political parties, non-profitable and democratic organizations and individuals that believe in a peaceful means of struggle and a better world for all.

The Social Democratic Party of Kurdistan (PSDK) recognizes and respects the Kurdistan Regional government and its institutions in Southern Kurdistan and will help the elected political organisations as best as it can to make it more robust, democratic, and self-confident and just towards its citizens.

We recognize the right of Kurdish people in Northern part of Kurdistan (Kurdistan occupied by the Turks) and the southwest part of Kurdistan (Kurdistan occupied by the Syrians) to struggle for their national, democratic and social rights. We do encourage every Kurdish organization to use non-violent and peaceful methods as a means to solving the Kurdish issue.

Our aim is to help and to be a part of the struggle in building a democratic and a civil society in Kurdistan, and acknowledge that a sovereign and free Kurdistan is a prerequisite for that aim. A free independent Kurdistan is therefore an issue that is at the top of our agenda. But as Social Democrats we pay the greatest of attention to the concepts of class consciousness, labour organizations and movements. The situation of Kurdish labour force is beyond words, a shame to humanity.

Thousands of Kurdish workers have to leave their homes, travel hundreds of kilometres to other places in Iran in order to procure seasonal jobs or just on a temporary nature. The crux of the matter is thousands of Kurdish workers are permanent "seasonal workers" with no rights at all. The pay is usually so minimal; barely enough for their own needs let alone feed their families. Industries are few in Kurdistan and heavy industry is a non-entity. Unemployment levels are alarmingly high. Agriculture is still quite traditional. The state of Iran deliberately makes Kurdistan economically and socially non-progressive in order to keep the Kurdish nation in limbo, in constant need and depression. Education, community health, as well as infrastructure are among those the Islamic Republic of Iran doesn't pay particular attention to.

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We do not accept such policies and will agitate using peaceful and democratic means for the achievement of our national rights and for a better and descent life for every individual Kurdistan.

We demand our national and democratic rights and will work to build a Kurdistan free from racism, chauvinism and aggression against women. We are fiercely against abuse of children, trafficking and pollution.

Long live the solidarity and sisterhood of nations!

Long live the struggle of Kurdish people for their national and democratic rights!

Long live Political, social and economical reforms and a better world for everybody!

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19 April 2008

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