

Kurdish National Congress of North America Second Annual Conference

August 26 - 27, 1989 Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA

SUMMARY OF CONFERENCE

The Second Annual KNC conference was held in the Howard Johnson Hotel, Ann Arbor, Michigan on August 26 - 27, 1989. Fifty-five delegates from all parts of the U.S.A. and Canada attended the conference. These delegates were representatives of the regional conferences. The conference was recorded on tape, and Kristi Khorshid graciously took notes from which the Proceedings were written. It should be emphasized again that with the exception of the resolutions and constitution, the ideas and concepts which are presented in the Proceedings represent the individuals who presented them and are not necessarily the views of KNC itself.

In a very democratic environment the delegates elected the following in secret ballot to be the 11 members of the Board of Directors of KNC.

1. Dr. Asad Khailany
2. Dr. Ahmed Uthman
3. Mr. Mohammed Sinjari
4. Mr. Farhad Aziz
5. Dr. Fouad Darweesh
6. Mr. Hadi Jalali
7. Dr. Najmaldin Karim
8. Mr. Jalal Melahaji
9. Ms. Shawbo Saaty
10. Dr. Saman Shali
11. Mr. Kakil Zibari

The Board of Directors in its first meeting according to the constitution approved in the conference, elected the Executive Committee as follows, who will serve as the officers of the Executive Board as well as KNC as a whole:

1. President: Dr. Asad Khailany
2. Secretary: Dr. Ahmed Uthman
3. Treasurer: Mr. Mohammad Sinjari

The Conference passed the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION 1: The Third Annual Conference of KNC will be held in Southern California during the first weekend of August, 1990. Dr. Fouad Darweesh was elected as

the Chairman of that conference. All those who are interested to participate in organizing the conference or chair a session should contact Dr. Darweesh directly or write to KNC.

RESOLUTION 2: KNC will celebrate Newroz in 1990 by having a party in Washington, D.C. Dr. Najmaldin Karim, Mr. Omar Halmat, Mr. Hadi Jalali, and Mr. Jalal Melahaji have been recommended to organize the party.

RESOLUTION 3: KNC is committed to becoming a helping agency for the resettlement of Kurdish refugees particularly in the United States. The following persons volunteered to serve on the Refugee Resettlement Committee to study how KNC can best approach this need.

1. Mr. Sherkoh Abbas
2. Mr. Farhad Aziz
3. Dr. Najmaldin Karim
4. Ms. Laura Khailany
5. Mr. Jalal Melahaji
6. Ms. Shawbo Saaty
7. Dr. Saman Shali
8. Mr. Kakil Zibari

RESOLUTION 4: A newsletter will continue to be published in the English language every two months on a regular basis. The following people have been recommended to be on the editorial staff:

1. Dr. Asad Khailany
2. Laura Khailany
3. Dr. Rasheed Qaradaghi
4. Khasrow Kader
5. Shirko Abbas
6. Mehraban Azwar
7. Dr. Ahmed Uthman
8. Kakil Zibari
9. Hiwa Nejjadian
10. Emir Sherif
11. Jalal Melahaji
12. Ardeshir Amjadi

RESOLUTION 5: A magazine should be published in the Kurdish language. Its name is to be "KURDISTAN" and issued every three months. The following were recommended as staff for the magazine:

1. Dr. Ibrahim Haji
2. Muhamad Amin Akrawi
3. Tinue Shad
4. Delair Shulai

5. Kamal Karadaghi
6. Shirko Abbas
7. Hawar Ala AlDeen
8. Bakhtiar Dargali

RESOLUTION 6: A committee shall be established to raise funds for the future Kurdish Center in Washington, D.C. The following were recommended to be on the committee:

1. Jalal Shaban
2. Dr. Asad Khailany
3. Mohammed Sinjari
4. Anwar Azwar
5. Shawbo Saaty
6. Dr. Fouad Darweesh
7. Kakil Zibari
8. Dr. Saman Shali
9. Dr. Najmaldin Karim

The goal of the committee is to collect \$20,000 by the next Annual Conference of KNC in August, 1990.

RESOLUTION 7: The president of KNC shall report to the KNC members of any meetings he has had with Kurdish leaders.

RESOLUTION 8: KNC reaffirms its commitment to support the struggle of the Kurdish people for their human and national rights. A letter writing campaign shall be continued directed toward government and non-government organizations and their leaders.

PROCEEDINGS

Session 1. Opening and Keynote Address. Chairman: Dr. Ahmed Uthman

Dr. Uthman opened the session with a welcome and a thanks to Laura and Asad Khailany for their work in organizing this conference, this year and last.

The Kurdish National Anthem, "Ayraqeeb" was sung.

Dr. Uthman spoke of the general aims of KNC: an umbrella organization to include all Kurds and non-Kurds, a place for all to speak freely, to bring our children together. KNC can represent the aspirations of the Kurds in the Middle East, who for geopolitical reasons cannot unite. The KNC welcomes everyone's opinions and criticisms. No Kurd should stay away from the KNC because they have a disagreement with of the KNC. They should come and state their feelings.

Dr. Asad Khailany began his speech with thanks and recognition to Laura Khailany, Dr. Uthman, Dr. Najimaldeen Karim, MS Shawbo Saaty, Mr. Jalal Malahaji, Mr. Shamsi Khuda,

Mr. Kakil Zibari, Mr. Dari Bigvand, Mr. Sargash Bigvand, Mr. Majeed Afshar, Mr. Anwar Azwar, Dr. Fouad Darweesh and all other members of last year's executive committee. He also thanked all KNC members who supported KNC so diligently.

Dr. Khailany's speech was printed and distributed to the conference. (copy enclosed). He spoke of the accomplishments and failures of the past year. Dr. Uthman gave the treasurer's report in place of the absent Dr. Asfandiar Shukri. As of 8/25/89 the KNC has approximately \$10,000. He also expressed thanks to Amnesty International for their efforts in putting the Kurdish issue before the U.N. He encouraged all to do their part in their communities. One advantage the Kurds have is that there are so many Kurds abroad who can influence world opinion.

The proposed agenda was approved except that it was voted to hold the committee elections after the open panel discussion so members could have a chance to get to know the candidates better.

Dr. Najmaldeen Karim read a telegram in Kurdish from Mr. Sami Abdul Rahman, Secretary of Kurdistan People Party who congratulated KNC for holding their Second Annual Conference.

Session 2. Constitution and By-Laws. Chairman: Dr. Najmaldeen Karim.

The Constitution and Bylaws Articles I-III were discussed at length in this session. All changes were approved by a majority vote.

Session 3. Constitution and By-Laws continued. Chairman: Dr. Fouad Darweesh

Articles IV-End of the Constitution and By-Laws were discussed and approved during this session.

Session 4. Kurdish Refugees and Immigration. Chairman: Dr. Ahmed Uthman

Laura Khailany presented an overview of a program called PSI, Private Sector Initiative, which is administered by the U.S. State Dept., as a way to possibly bring Kurdish refugees to the U.S. In this program, an organization like KNC acts like a government agency to assist persons to immigrate to the U.S. This program would allow KNC to do something very noble and tangible for the Kurds. It would also help establish the credibility of KNC and demonstrate that KNC is a viable organization. Laura emphasized that KNC should do more than carry on a letter writing campaign or participate in a political rally. A program like PSI would provide a golden opportunity for positive action by Kurds in the U.S. Asad Khailany stated that KNC should aspire to become a sponsoring agent with the U.S. Government, like ISNA (Islamic Society of North America) is in Canada. Dr. Najmaldeen reported that the refugee office in the State Department is willing to meet with KNC. Also, he reported that Kurds are to be given priority in worldwide immigration offices. He also gave the suggestion that the KNC should send someone to the Turkish refugee camps to take financial aid to them and help Kurds fill out application forms to assist in their emigrations. He stated that refugees can survive on \$20-25 a month.

Laura Khailany urged all members of the KNC to make a decision to commit themselves to this program.

Mr. Shamsi Khuda suggested that the KNC create an Immigration Committee.

Mr. Farhad Aziz of Canada discussed ways Kurds can get landed immigration status in Canada. Mr. Mohammad Sinjari stated that Canada has a policy to never turn away a Kurd. The problem is in reaching Canada.

Dr. Ahmed Uthman reiterated the immediate need to get the Kurds out of Turkey. The issues at hand were summarized as follows:

- 1) Adoption of PSI
- 2) Sending someone to Turkey
- 3) Chairman going to Washington
- 4) Increased cooperation with Canadian Kurds
- 5) Formation of an Immigration Committee.

Mr. Sadiq Abi, who recently visited refugee camps in Turkey, reported on the bad conditions there. Visitors can only go to one camp, there are many restrictions, and the refugees are not permitted to speak to journalists.

A proposal was passed to commit KNC to becoming a helping agency for Kurds.

Session 5. KNC Publications. Chairman: Mr. Mohammad Sinjari.

Mr. Mohammad Sinjari discussed KNC publications, in Kurdish. There was an agreement to have two publications, one in English directed towards the American/Canadian audience and the other in Kurdish for the Kurdish community. Two names were suggested: KNC Press and Kurdistan Magazine. Laura Khailany suggested the use of KNC's name to aid in the recognition of our organization by government officials and throughout North America.

Session 6. Panel Discussion: Current Issues Facing the Kurds.

Panel Discussion Members: Jalal Melahaji, Chair , Dr. Awat Alyar, Dr. Ahmed Uthman , Shamsi Khuda, and Dr. Saman Shali

Jalal Melahaji stated that we should focus on the area of Kurdistan that needs the most help. Our duty is to spread information about the Kurdish cause among our communities, senators, the Armenian Community. We can turn to the Armenians here who have the experience of helping their own people through a tragedy. He pointed out that many minorities with strong lobby in North America such as the Greeks, the Jews,,etc are interested in helping the Kurds.

Dr: Saman Shali gave a brief historical overview of Kurds. The Halabja massacre is the darkest day in the history of Kurds. Dr. Shali says that today's generation of Kurd's are dying- Kurds abroad are not teaching their children language or culture. He proposed that KNC should

emphasize the importance of spreading the Kurdish culture to the children. He suggested distributing Kurdish dictionaries to Kurdish families.

Dr. Ahmed Uthman spoke of the illiteracy of Kurds in Iraq today, from which we will feel the effects for many years. Also, he spoke of the poor economic situation of Kurds, especially in Iraq. Dr. Uthman encouraged the members to publicize the Kurdish problem to the American/Canadian people to write letters to senators and local newspapers. He encouraged the members to stay informed of the Kurdish situation and inform others. He spoke optimistically of the Kurds' comeback and to keep our aspirations alive. He states, "We have hit the bottom and there is only one way to go now--up!"

Dr. Awat Aliar expressed that the greatest need for help is in Iraqi Kurdistan. Many Iraqi Kurds have gone to Iran as refugees. Dr. Awat stated that the mass emigration of Kurds is not in the Kurds' best interest, for that is exactly what the Iraqi government wants. He feels we should encourage the return to Iraqi Kurdistan. He stated that at least they would be in their country and the conditions would not be worse than what is present in the Turkish refugee camps.

Shamsi Khuda read a communique from the Kurdish National Congress in England, held August 19, 1989, translated by Mr. Ahmed Farhadi.

Mr. Mohammad Sinjari - clarified the point that Kurds are not against the people of different countries, rather Kurds are against the regimes of various countries, such as the Iraqi regime. He argued against the suggestion for Kurds returning to Iraq. He says that Kurds are safer in Turkey where there is at least an awareness of the poison in food, whereas, in Iraq they would have no knowledge of poisoning. Tile killing would be worse in Iraq, he states. Mr. Sinjari points out that it is better to live and be safe outside of Kurdistan, than to die or be killed in Kurdistan.

Dr. Fouad Darweesh followed with this point: all people have the right to emigrate and advance and improve their situation.

Dr. Asad Khailany further added that KNC encourages emigration to the U.S., Canada, or Australia, where Kurds can be prosperous. He added that the refugee status in Europe is very poor. Also, he reminded the members that Kurds are free to return to Iraq if they choose.

Mr. Ahmed Farhadi agreed with Dr. Awat Aliar. He stated that if the Kurds lose their land, what will they have?

Session 7. Open Session. Chairman: Mr. Kakil Zibari.

Most of the discussion in this session centered around the candidates to be elected to the new Executive Committee. Dr. Awat Aliyar expressed concern about delegates voting for candidates without knowing their background and experience.

Mr. Sinjari raised the language issue again and emphasized that teaching the language to our children is not as important as teaching them to understand and support the Kurdish cause.

Dr. Ahmed Farhadi supported exposing our children to the Kurdish language, even in small doses. He suggested forming a summer school.

Dr. Asad Khailany reflected on last year's conference. He admitted that it was very interesting and included very diverse opinions. He reminded us that through a democratic process the members of the board or executive committee are elected and there is no one person or group has control over who will be elected.

Mr. Bayad Sulaiman suggested having a background check on nominees.

Mr. Azad Nakshabandi encouraged KNC to create a democratic atmosphere in the organization which is what the Middle East has lacked. He encouraged KNC members to work together and speak without prejudice. He also spoke of the importance of education for our children. He suggested writing Kurdish story books for young children.

Section 8. Election of Executive Board. Chairman: Shawbo Saaty.

Election Committee Members: Dr. Wafa Khorshid, Hiwa Nejadian, and Dr. Saman Shali.

According to the constitution which was approved in the conference the following eleven persons were elected as the board members:

1. Dr. Asad Khailany
2. Dr. Ahmed Uthman
3. Dr. Najmaldin Karim
4. Ms. Shawbo Saaty
5. Dr. Fouad Darweesh
6. Mr. Mohammad Sinjari
7. Mr. Jalal Melahaji
8. Mr. Kakil Zibari
9. Mr. Farhad Aziz
10. Mr. Hadi Jalali
11. Dr. Saman Shali.

Mr. Qhazi Mizori and Dr. Wafa Khorshid were elected as alternates. Immediately after the conference according to the new constitution the board in its first meeting elected the following officers:

1. President: Dr. Asad Khailany
2. Secretary: Dr. Ahmed Uthman
3. Treasurer: Mr. Mohammed Sinjari

Session 9. Closing Session. Chairman: Dr. Asad Khailany.

Dr. Ahmed Uthman encouraged Kurds to join hands and emphasized the importance of unity among Canadian and American Kurds.

Mr. Farhad Aziz spoke of Canadian Kurds. He encouraged frequent discussions between American and Canadian Kurds. He implored us not to underestimate the Kurds in Canada. He encouraged Kurds to join various groups which have various goals for the Kurdish cause. He also discussed the process for communicating with the Canadian government. He emphasized the importance of continued communication, cooperation and coordination of plans between Canadian and American Kurds to avoid duplication of efforts and to promote unity and eliminate misunderstandings. Mr. Hewa Nezadi suggested creating a brochure outlining the KNC goals and distributing it to Canadian Kurds.

Dr. Najmaldeen acknowledged an Iraqi doctor who has been supportive of the Kurds and has contributed \$500. He suggested that we make him our first honorary member.

Dr. Asad Khailany read the following four telegrams to the Second Annual Conference of the Kurdish National Congress of North America:

From Mr. Jalal Talabani:

We hope you all success for your Second Annual KNC Conference in North America. Your efforts in the past year to defend the Kurdish people and promote Kurdish interests in North America is greatly admired by us and all Kurdish people. The roles and the efforts of organizations such as yours are an essential part of our Kurdish nation's struggle for its human and national rights. Here in Kurdistan all Kurdish people are looking to you to be their defenders in North America. Today our people are facing a very critical situation. However, we are confident that our Kurdish people will defeat all attempts by Kurdish enemies to destroy the Kurdish identity.

From KPDP (Kurdistan People Democratic Party):

Our sincere and warmest congratulations to you for holding your second national conference. There is no doubt that having an umbrella organization such as yours to organize the majority of Kurds in the U.S.A. and Canada is a very progressive, correct, and important step in our Kurdish struggle for our human and national rights. Our party supports all your efforts for protecting and promoting Kurdish interests in North America and we declare our cooperation with you in your efforts to defeat the latest campaign by Kurdish enemies to destroy the Kurdish identity.

From Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) in Damascus:

PUK congratulates all of you for holding your second successful annual conference. The efforts of Kurdish organizations such as yours are essential parts of the Kurdish struggle for its human and national rights. We strongly support and admire all your efforts for promoting and defending Kurdish interests in North America. It is our hope that your organization will become a strong Kurdish umbrella organization to unite all Kurds in North America. Kurdish people in Kurdistan are looking to you to defend them in North America.

From Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran, Paris:

We hope for you all the success for your second annual national conference. We are confident that your organization will play a viable and important role in the Kurdish struggle for its national and human rights. We assure you that the assassination of our late secretary, Dr. Abdul Rahman Qasimlou, by the enemies of the Kurdish people has increased our determination to continue our struggle until the national and human rights of our Kurdish people are recognized.

From the Kurdish Community in England, Ibrahim Ahmed and Hama Rasoul:

It is the wish of every Kurd in England that you have a successful conference. The Kurdish nation is facing a very critical situation, specifically in Iraq. Your defense of Kurdish human and national rights and your efforts for promoting Kurdish interests in North America are an integral part of the over-all struggle of the Kurdish people to defend themselves against the campaign by the enemies of the Kurdish people to destroy the Kurdish nation. The Kurdish Community in England and Kurds all over Kurdistan are very appreciative of your efforts and are hoping that organizations such as yours become strong lobbies for the Kurdish people in their communities and countries.

The closing issues included a lengthy discussion on the amount of yearly dues. It was decided to lower the regular dues to \$60 and students' dues were to remain at \$25.

Further discussions included a KNC emblem, membership cards, and flag. No decisions were made on an emblem. More designs should be sent in and a monetary gift may be awarded for the winning entry.

The 1990 Newroz party was discussed and Washington D.C. was recommended as the location. It was agreed that this would be a good location for families to enjoy and it would be convenient to invite members of Congress. The date was not confirmed but it would be close to March 21. A committee was formed to organize the party.

The 1990 Third Annual Meeting of KNC was discussed. California was chosen as the location, with San Diego and Anaheim as two possible cities. The first weekend in August will be the time of the conference. It was suggested that on the first day of the conference the committees will meet in advance and the second day would begin early. Dr. Najmaldeen reminded us that the future conferences wouldn't be so lengthy because we won't have to go through the Constitution and By-Laws.

Resolutions regarding the focus of a letter writing campaign in the coming months and that the president should report to KNC members in the newsletter of all meetings he has had with Kurdish leaders were discussed and passed. That KNC will continue to support the struggle of the Kurdish people for human and national rights was reaffirmed.

Dr. Amin Saeed made the point that investment is necessary because the KNC dues are insufficient to support the cause. He recommends real estate to be a feasible endeavor. Dr. Asad Khailany agreed that the KNC should consider some for-profit endeavors.

Dr. Asad Khailany closed the conference with positive words about the success of this conference and hopes for the same attendance at next year's conference in California.

The conference ended with the Kurdish National Anthem.

**KNC SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE
KEYNOTE ADDRESS: ASAD KHAILANY**

Ladies & Gentlemen: Greetings

On the behalf of the executive committee I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to each of you to this historic Second Conference of our Kurdish National Congress of North America. The successes of our regional conferences and your present here are clear indications of your & our commitments to make KNC a strong viable Kurdish lobby in North America. As we always said that we are going to be frank and open and we are committed to the democratic environment within all KNC organizations. Therefore I am going to list our achievements and encouragements on one hand and our disappointments and discouragements on the other hand since last August when we established KNC.. On the encouragement and achievements side we have:

1. Created and organized KNC as a nonprofit organization in USA.
2. We were able to publish the proceedings of the First Conference of Kurdish National Congress of North America.
3. We were able to publish newsletters.
4. Prepared the proposed constitution and bylaws for KNC.
5. Filed with IRS for tax exempt status.
6. Enlisted 60 members who paid their dues.
7. Collected the total of \$9,435.00.
8. Numerous letters have been sent by the chairman of KNC and other members of KNC to different governments and international organizations regarding Kurdish problems.
9. Participated in organization of Amnesty International regional conference on Kurdish human rights in Turkey. Dr. Shukri and me made a presentation in this conference.
10. Dr. Shukri, our treasure as a member of Physician for human right visited Kurdish refugees in Turkey and an article on chemical warfare authored by him and other members of the team who visited Kurdish refugees in Turkey published in the prestigious JAMA journal.
11. We were able to have four successful regional conferences.
12. Regional members of KNC organized and participated in a number of rallies, demonstrations and meeting to memorize Halabja massacre.
13. Established KNC respects among the majority Kurds in North America, Europe and

Kurdistan.

14. Stimulate Kurdish people in North America and encouraged their activities to promote Kurdish interests in North America.

15. KNC became a symbol of unity among Kurds, people from different parties, organizations and with different ideologies started coordinating their efforts within KNC to promote Kurdish interest in North America and in struggle for Kurdish human and national rights.

16. Stimulated Kurdish people in other countries such as England, Australia and they started to establish their own Kurdish National Congress and Kurdish Assemblies in their countries.

17. Obtained 12 scholarships for Kurdish students.

18. Extended help to any Kurd who asked KNC for help and wrote to the immigration authorities on behalf of a number of Kurdish individuals.

19. All Kurdish political parties and organizations with the exception of the supporters of KDP of Iraq in USA expressed their supports and pleasure with goals and activities of KNC. KDP of Iraq has some reservation about some members of KNC executive committee however I believe in general they are also supportive of organizations such as KNC.

The following should be listed on the side of disappointments and discouragements:

1. We were not able to come to understanding with the supporters of Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iraq in USA. The Adhoc Committee which was created in February 1989 had one meeting and the members of the committee could not agree on a number of issues. Our main difference with the supporters of KDP of Iraq in USA was that they insisted that this conference not to be called the Second Conference which indirectly meant that our first conference not to be recognized and we couldn't and did not accept their request. KDP in my meeting with Mr. Massoud Barzani; President of KDP of Iraq, pointed out their feeling that some members of the executive committee of KNC have negative attitude toward KDP of Iraq and they expressed their displeasure about that. I had pointed out to them that KNC does not have any control on the ideology, attitude or the feeling of any of its members and I invited them to join KNC and participate in our conferences and vote for members who they feel comfortable with.
2. Papers are filed with IRS to obtained the tax exempt status. Still we have not received a response from IRS.
3. Failure to conduct the second conference and Newrooz Party at the time which was designated by the first conference.
- 4, We were not able to bring any Kurdish refugee to North America and up to now we have not established a strong relation or creditability with immigration authorities.
5. We were not able to publish our newsletter on regular time.
6. We were not able to publish any newsletter or magazine in Kurdish language.
7. We could not establish an emblem for our organization.
8. We could not issue membership cards.
9. We were not able to prepare a brochure about the proposed future Kurdish Center in Washington D.C. and launch a campaign to collect donation for this project.
10. We were not able to establish any for profit business establishment among Kurdish

people.

11. We were not being able to establish a strong relation with legislative bodies in North America.

Experience Of Our Last Year:

1. Some local representatives of Kurdish political parties and even Kurdish Communities show the birth of KNC as a threat to their roles and positions. I have learned from those who are familiar with the establishment of Kurdish Institute in Paris that they had the same reactions when they first started. In their case at the beginning the leadership of two major Kurdistan political parties; based on the report of their local representatives, were not supportive to the efforts of Dr. Kendall. However soon all Kurdish Political parties became very supportive to the Kurdish Institute in Paris. In our case no Kurdish leadership expressed their objection to the principles of KNC. I believe in near future KNC will be admired by all Kurdish political and nonpolitical organizations.

2. Many Kurds have plenty talks and no actions. In our first conference many who were there and who were insisting that the annual membership due to be 1% of the annual income of each member or the annual membership due should not be less than \$300 did not pay even \$120. In some occasions I have seen Kurds who claim that they are ready to donate their house or to contribute considerable amount to collect \$200,000.00 to Kurdish refugees or do so and so ..etc but when it comes to action they are not ready to donate one dollar or one hour of their time. So what we have is just talk.

3. A number of Kurds from all parts of Kurdistan expressed their support for KNC but they also expressed their fear of their names being known to their back home governments because their relative may be persecuted. All of us we have relatives back home. In my opinion we are the citizens or permanent residents in democratic countries in North America if we are afraid of those back home government who should not? Beside we are an open organization, we seek a peaceful solution to the Kurdish problem.

Facts Should Be Known About KNC:

1. KNC is not establishing policies or strategies for Kurdish movement. However we believe that the role of KNC is an advisory role for Kurdish Leadership to establish policies and strategies for achieving Kurdish human and national rights. Kurdish leadership can not afford to ignore the suggestions, proposals and the roles of organizations such as KNC. In the past only Kurdish political parties have planned and established policies and strategies for Kurdish movements and their struggle for human and national rights. There are important roles which can be played by organizations such as KNC and educated Kurdish people outside Kurdistan to save Kurdish people from their current tragic and disaster situation.

2. KNC must and should stay as an organization where Kurds with different political background and different ideologies can express their opinion and feeling free from any fear of criticisms or discrimination. The democratic environment within KNC must be kept at all costs. KNC should never be under control of a specific party or ideology.

I propose the following goals to be considered for achievement in the coming year:

1. Obtaining tax exempt status from IRS.
2. Prepare a brochure for launching a campaign to raise money for Kurdish Center in Washington D.C. We should make a goal to raise at least Twenty Thousand Dollars in the coming year.
3. Try hard to bring some Kurdish refugee to USA and Canada.
4. Publish a four page newsletter (professionally printed) in English on regular basis.
5. Establish an emblem for KNC and issue membership cards.
6. To make KNC known to the legislative bodies in USA and Canada.
7. Publish another newsletter or a magazine in Kurdish language
8. To organize a party to celebrate Newrooz in Washington D. C.
9. Continue on writing campaign on issues related to Kurds.