

Dr. Ahmad Uthman a Kurdish Leader and scientist passes away

A Sad Day for Kurds

Dr. Ahmad Uthman, KNC Cofounder Passed Away December 14, 2005

The well known Kurdish patriot and scientist Dr. Ahmed A. Uthman passed away on December 14, 2005 in Buffalo, New York. Dr. Uthman was born in 1931 in Sulaimani, Southern Kurdistan. He attended Leeds University and received both DDS and FRCS degrees. He returned to Iraq and was appointed as an assistant professor at the College of Dentistry at Baghdad University. Dr. Uthman continued his academic career at the College of Dentistry and was appointed as Dean of the college in 1970. In 1972 he immigrated to the United States to take a teaching position with New York University at Buffalo. During his academic years he attracted many excellent American and foreign students to New York University and was a true mentor to all of his graduate and undergraduate students. Dr. Uthman's theoretical knowledge and practical expertise were highly respected in the academic community and he became a well-known scientist in his field.

Dr. Uthman was a strong defender of human rights and a very active Kurdish patriot. He was among five Kurdish expatriates to meet with the deputy president of the United Nations in 1974 to protest the Baath regime's campaign against the Kurdish nation. As early as 1976, Dr. Uthman - along with the late Muhammad Doski - participated in a meeting in Ann Arbor to plan the creation of a non-partisan organization to promote Kurdish interests in the US. In 1988 Dr. Uthman was among the first people participating in a conference, along with 41 other Kurdish Americans, to form the Kurdish National Congress of North America in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Dr. Uthman contributed significantly in the success of the conference and its outcome. Dr. Uthman served the KNC for many years as a member of the board of directors and as the secretary of KNC. He participated in all conferences and activities of KNC faithfully until his health prevented him from attending the last two conferences. The KNC Board of Directors awarded him the certificate of recognition for his tireless efforts to defend Kurdish human and national rights and for his valuable services to the KNC. As a KNC co-founder, he devoted significant time and energy to promote Kurdish interests in North America and played a significant role in bringing the plight of the Kurdish nation to the attention of the international community. His colleagues and comrades and the Kurdish people will miss him dearly. The Kurdish National Congress of North America offers our deepest condolences to his family including his two brothers and two sisters, his wife Barbara, daughters Joan, Vian, Suzan and his son Alan.

For more information please call: 408-834-5557

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