

# **Eastern Kurdistan (Iran) Political Parties Meet to Form a United Front**

**March 6, 2006 - Hawler**

During the Independence Conference in Southern Kurdistan held November 10 & 13, 2005 at the Universities of Salahadeen and Sulaimany, Kurdish parties from Eastern Kurdistan - expressed their strong desire for creating a united front. The Kurdish National Congress of North America (KNC) launched an initiative to bring the interested parties together to form an alliance that would strengthen the Kurdish cause in the fight for democracy and the rights of Kurdish people in Kurdistan living within the borders of Iran.

The KNC initiated discussions with the following parties who had voiced their interest, as the first step towards realizing a united front amongst all Kurdish parties of Eastern Kurdistan.

1. Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan – (PDKI)
2. Komala Party – Iranian Kurdistan
3. Komala - Communist Party of Iran (CPI)
4. Organization of Iranian Kurdistan Struggle
5. Revolution Union of Kurdistan – Iran

After five months of preparation and discussion, the parties came to the conclusion that via further dialogue and continued meetings Kurdish unity is achievable and should be given top priority.

The KNC invited the interested parties to meet on March 6, 2006 in Hawler and the following parties accepted KNC's invitation:

1. Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan – (PDKI)
2. Organization of Iranian Kurdistan Struggle
3. Revolution Union of Kurdistan – Iran

The representative of Komala Party and Komala-CPI expressed their support of the front by phone and in a formal letter respectively. They were not able to attend the meeting yet remained supportive of the plan and hoped to be able to participate in more inclusive meetings in the future.

The meeting started with a minute of silence in respect for those who have given their lives for Kurdistan. The KNC thanked all the parties for their genuine support and their commitment to forming the front and working together. A great deal of discussion was concentrated on the vision of the parties to form the front based on consensus, not on voting power, which makes every one an equal partner. Discussions were also focused on finding the best mechanism for enlarging this front to be more comprehensive and

include more parties and organizations which believe in the principle of unifying Kurds in the fight for self-determination.

All Parties were in support of KNC role to facilitate discussions around the unified front and asked the KNC to follow up their initial steps until the front is successfully formed. In return the KNC committed to continued efforts on the creation of the united front. The parties agreed to meet again and emphasized the importance in bringing the other two parties to the next meeting.

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