

Political Platform of Save Assyria Front (SAF)

Moscow, 26/08/2007

The transition from the reality of our divided nation toward unification is the duty of the Assyrian contemporary political movement, where the rules of procedure and the political agenda of Assyrian organizations and parties recognize the historical and national inherent rights to Assyria, with no non-Assyrian patriotic affiliation by the Assyrian individual to abolish national affiliation.

Due to the tragic situation of the Assyrian cause, an Assyrian expanded Conference was held in Stockholm, Sweden from December 15- 17, 2006, which was followed by the SAF founding conference in Tblisi, Georgia, from March 15-17, 2007. Since its founding, SAF has emerged as a national, political, and ideological front which believes that “Ashur” (Assyria) is land, people and culture. SAF represents parties and civil and political institutions of the Assyrian nation, which are currently struggling for the inherent national rights of the Assyrian people.

Positions and Objectives of Save Assyria Front

At the international level:

First: SAF is struggling for the recognition of the Assyrian people as an independent identity, equal with other citizens with rights and obligations in every country. SAF also strives to influence key decision-making centers and players, at international, regional, or national levels to ensure the future and the fate of Assyrians as an indigenous people, based on the Charter of the Declaration of Human Rights of 10/December 1948 (and other international covenants). SAF works to secure the national rights of the Assyrian people regardless of changes to the political map.

Second: SAF rejects all kinds of terrorism and ethnic discrimination among human beings on the basis of color, language, religion, social origin, and differentiating between men and women contrary to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Third: SAF is working at the international, regional and national levels to spread democracy to launch political and civil freedoms, through strengthening relations with the governments and peoples of the world.

Fourth: SAF supports the peaceful coexistence between ethnic components internationally, regionally and nationally, preserving ethnic rights equally, furthering freedom and justice, strengthening relations with peace makers, and supports democratic movements and the institutions of civil society, to reinforce national independence and end all forms of exploitation and subordination, politically and economically.

Fifth: SAF recognizes the ability of the United Nations, its affiliates, and other international organizations in resolving disputes peacefully and protecting world peace.

At the Assyrian national level:

First: SAF maintains that Assyria is occupied; therefore we are working for an Assyrian region to be called “Assyria”, linked directly to the central Iraqi government, where Assyrians will preserve their identity and presence in the land of their ancestors. An Assyrian region is currently defined as follows:

North: The international borders of the state of Iraq with Turkey and Syria.

East: Including the Nirwa and Rikan regions, down to the Greater Zab River.

West : The Tigris River.

South: The point where the Greater Zab meets with the Tigris River.

Second: SAF assures the authenticity of the Assyrian people in Iraq, and will work to gain the international and Iraqi recognition for the Assyrian people as indigenous people of Iraq, and the right of every Assyrian to gain Iraqi citizenship regardless of residence or current citizenship.

Third: SAF assures that the Assyrian identity is inclusive for all Assyrians and rejects all the new-made and compound names to identify the Assyrian nation, and will work to correct the clauses of the Iraqi constitution concerning the Assyrian identity.

Fourth: SAF assures that the Assyrian political decision must be independent and not linked to any other option.

Fifth: SAF will confront and stand against any attempt to marginalize the Assyrian identity as land, people and culture.

Sixth: SAF assures that immigration and deportation from Assyria is incompatible with the national aspirations of the Assyrian nation. SAF will therefore work to end the forced displacement.

Seventh: SAF assures that claims for the inherent rights of the Assyrian people in Iraq should be directed through the central government and the international level, and has the right to use all means to achieve its goals.

Eighth: SAF maintains the necessity to purify the current Assyrian political atmosphere from remnants of previous eras, in what serves the Assyrian nation’s interest.

Ninth: SAF recognizes that Assyrians suffered Genocide at the hands of Turks and Kurds during the 1st World War, and that this Genocide was planned by the Ottoman Empire. SAF also maintains that the massacre which took place Northern Iraq in August of 1933 was also Genocide, planned and carried out by the Iraqi government, and SAF will work

to gain recognition of these Genocides through the legal process.

At the Iraqi national level

First: SAF understands the need for purposeful dialogues with all Iraqi factions to reach firm convictions regarding the recognition of the legitimate national rights of the Assyrian people and the rest of the Iraqi groups who are subject to persecution and forced displacement.

Second: SAF recognizes the necessity of brotherhood between all ethnic and religious groups existing in Iraq.

Third: SAF demands that the Iraqi constitution must equally safeguard the national rights of all Iraqi groups, and rejects any attempts to marginalize the Assyrian nation's rights and presence in its historical land under sectarian and factional concepts.

Long live Iraq
Long live the Assyrian nation

Save Assyria Front

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