

A Paper published by the Union of Unemployed in Iraq - UUI , Network of the UUI & FWCUI Representative Abroad

Final Statement of: Conference of Re-Organizing Civility in the Iraqi Society

Iraq has turned into an international battlefield, this war put the entire region in a crisis, it has also jeopardized the people's safety and all aspects of life. Tens of civilians are falling dead on daily basis because of this war without having anything to do with it. Terrorism and terrorist acts are marching towards the residential areas, workplaces, markets and everywhere in the Iraqi society. Poverty, deprivation, and the lack of job opportunities are other results of destroying civility in Iraq.

Human liberties are also threatened. The violations of essential human rights are increasing such as the freedom of speech and expression, and even the freedom of dress code. Furthermore, other violations are increasing such as torture of prisoners, terminating or detaining of hundreds of opponents with false accusations under various pretexts such as spying, or the support of terrorism. In addition to the women situations which have gone backwards where very clear violation to women rights are committed besides imposing degrading laws in different regions on women in order to return them to the domestic realm! All these situations revealed dark prospect for the Iraqi society.

Terrorism cannot be confronted with terrorism. Terrorism should be confronted socially and politically rather than the use of military and secret intelligence methods. Millions of Iraqis are victims of the ongoing war and conflict between America and

political Islam and Baath remnants, consequently people who have no interests in this conflict are paying the price from their lives. The continuation of these situations deepens the political and economical crisis day by day and threatens the entire society of an ethnic, tribal, and religious war. What happens today in Najaf and yesterday in Falujah, Samarra and other different regions of killings, damages and violations of human rights are the examples that will be imposed on the Iraqi society.

We declare throughout our conference as parties, organizations, trade unions, and political individuals, women, labour and professional activists, our responsibility towards the Iraqi society, the security, decent and prosper life for everyone who resides and lives in Iraq regardless of their ethnic, religious, genetic, or political background.

The re-organization of civility of the Iraqi society that involves many issues such as bringing back life to all aspects of the Iraqi society, securing safety, maintaining human rights and civil liberties, and securing the minimum living standards are the tasks that should be put on the shoulders of all powers that include the support of human beings in their platforms. We, the delegations to this conference, parties, organizations, individuals, and trade unions, who gathered in this conference or even those who did not get the chance to attend it, promise the full cooperation to apply the above mentioned principles in this

statement. Furthermore, we assure our commitment to the conference agenda, and agree upon working towards expanding the front of reorganizing civility by calling on other organizations or individuals who have not attended the conference to become part of this reorganizing civility front.

Parties and groups:

Kildany Patriotic Democratic Party, Kurdistan Solution democratic Party, Worker Communist Party of Iraq, Building Democratic Party, Democratic Left Movement, Free Democratic Group, Free Iraq Foundation, The Defence of Children Rights Centre, Now Centre for Democratic Culture, Community of Defence the Displaced People in Basra, UUI Representative abroad, Women Freedom Organisation in Iraq, Athletes Rights Community, Union of Unemployed in Iraq (UUI) Muqdadya Branch, Southern Gas Company Trade Union, Muqdadya General Trade Union, UUI Basra Branch, Electricity Distribution Trade Union In Basra, Accountant Trade Union, Federation of Worker Councils and Trade Unions in Iraq-FWCUI

Individuals:

Dr. Ali Dawood Saloom: Professor of International Law

Dr. Wissam Shakir Habib

Rashid Tawfiq Abd alqadir, Engineer
Shahab Ali Shahad

Conference to rebuild civility in the Iraqi society

Baghdad ,August 25,2004

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Working paper of the Conference to rebuild civility in the Iraqi society

Working paper:

presented by the conference to defend the civil rights of the masses in Iraq vis-à-vis the current terrorist conflict and the threat of nationalist and sectarian conflicts as a first step to reorganize civility in the Iraqi society.

The political crisis and the plight of daily living of the masses: In reality the Iraqi society now is sunken in a dark scenario. One of the dangerous aspects of the current situation is insecurity, which controls the whole society. The terrorist conflict between America on the one hand and political Islam and remnants of the Baath regime on the other breaches the lives, livelihood and the rights of citizens and claims the lives of scores of them everyday. The nightmare of nationalist, sectarian and tribal conflicts represents a huge and continuous danger, which threatens the lives and rights of the masses.

The tasks of the humanist forces.

Therefore we, the participants in this conference believe that it is our responsibility and the responsibility of all humanist, freedom-loving and civilized people to take effective and immediate measures to protect the lives, tranquility and safety of the citizens and their civil rights vis-à-vis the atmosphere of terrorism and the threat of reactionary conflicts. We announce the following points as basis and framework that must be consolidated as guarantee in this regard. We call through this conference on all parties and political groups to announce their obligation to them and struggle with us to consolidate the points below.

Urgent practical goals:

Pursuing the above mentioned perspective and seeking to take all measures which may end the suffering of the masses, we call on all political parties, mass organizations and civil and progressive institutions to struggle and participate actively to achieve the following goals:

-Prohibition of all forms of terrorist activity. Bombing civilian places, and shooting and attacking civilians under any excuse and by any force is strongly condemned and denounced.

-Prohibition of attacking and violating the civil rights of the masses, and arresting and torturing civilians. Such actions by any force and under any excuse are strongly condemned and denounced. The lives and rights of citizens must be protected conserved under all circumstances. No one has the right to breach this principle under any circumstances. Prohibition of inhuman practices against women and encouraging women to join education institutions and ensure their rights to work.

-Cities must be cleared of weapons and all armed forces and headquarters pulled outside cities and the working and living places of the masses. Political offices and their guards along with special forces assigned to protect the citizens only must stay in the cities.

-Prohibition of all practices and measures, which may create or intensify nationalist, sectarian and tribal hatred, which may become the source of nationalist, sectarian and tribal conflicts. Such practices and measures are condemned for being an endeavor to put the society before the danger of lethal reactionary conflicts.

-All political forces must observe political principles and standards in settling political differences among themselves.

-Secure full and unconditional political freedom, freedom of political and partisan activity, freedom to establish parties and political and professional organizations, freedom of expression, freedom to demonstrate and protest. These freedoms must be regarded as basic rights of the masses and therefore no force must have the right to violate them under any excuse. Prohibition of forcing people to join any political party for job or promotion.

-Media outlet own by the state and political parties must be used to promote the awareness of the masses and encourage them to participate in politics and making political decision.

On the other hand they must be used to expose all forms of terrorism being state terrorism or the terrorism committed by political groups. They must be used to elevate the human being's status and value. Prohibition of any violation against human values under any circumstances by audible, visual or written media.

Establishing a liaison and watching committee:

to liaise among all participating parties. The tasks of this committee can be summarized in the following:

1. Expose all breaches by any party against the above-mentioned points.
2. Put planes and joint campaigns with other parties to watch such violations.
3. Decide on meetings necessary to put action planes.

Signatories of the working paper:

Kildan Union Democratic Party
Kurdistan Democratic Solution Party
Worker-communist Party of Iraq
Democratic Construction Party
Democratic Left Movement
Free Democratic Assemble
Free Iraq Institution
Centre to Defend children's rights in Kurdistan
Alan Center for Democratic Culture
Association to Defend Homeless Families in Basra
Abroad Network of representatives of the Union of Unemployed in Iraq
Organization of Women's Freedom in Iraq
Association of Athletes' Rights Union of Unemployed in Moqdayiah
Union of South Gas Company Federation of Workers' Union in Moqdayiah
Union of Unemployed in Basra
Union of Electricity and Distribution in Basra
Federation of Worker Councils and Trade Unions in Iraq-FWCUI

Solidarity message to Zenko-Japan

Dear Friends in Zenko -Japan

In charge of Iraqi workers and unemployed people and their unions, I send you our message regarding your yearly conference in Tokyo. We know very well about Zenko and its international human perspectives against war in Iraq, occupation and for liberation of Iraqi people for a better life.

Zenko like UUI struggling for freedom, equality and human rights.

Zenko like UUI demanding withdrawal of all Occupying troops from Iraq including Japanese troops, demanding equal rights for men and women, equal right for all citizens regardless of their race, sex and ethnic. Zenko has an international perspective against globalisation and standing for a fair and equal world for all people worldwide. The most important aspect of our experience with Zenko is that Zenko supports our third Front in Iraq namely the front of civilisation and humanity against both poles of international terrorism; US state terrorism and terrorism of political Islam.

In our last visit to Japan, we knew closely the leadership and many members of Zenko, we would like to express our solidarity and support to your works and agenda and we hope you a successful conference.

The UUI, along with the Federation of Workers Councils and Unions in Iraq-FWCUI, is striving to end the occupation in Iraq and pressing all governments who sent troops to Iraq to withdraw them from Iraq, struggling for a secular government, for political freedoms, for improvement in the security situation in Iraq, for improvement in the living conditions of Iraqi people and put forward a democratic labour law as alternative labour legislation which guarantee unconditional freedom for Iraqi Workers to organise and strike and full implementation of the ILO conventions in Iraq.

Zenko as a progressive movement in the Japan struggles to end the US occupation of Iraq; we must extend our full support to Iraqi workers and their struggle for freedom and equality. The Iraqi Workers and unemployed people need our active solidarity so that they can build the power necessary to confront the reactionary and brutal regime which Washington is putting in place in Iraq. Only Workers solidarity and struggle, in and outside of Iraq, will guarantee a better future for Iraqi society and the working people of Iraq.

Yours

Aso Jabbar ,Representative of UUI and FWCUI abroad , 10.July 04

Solidarite-Irak appeal for support of the left in Iraq

<http://www.solidarite-irak.fr.fm/>

The vice tightens on Iraqi society

Because we opposed the war in Iraq, one year ago; because since then, Iraq has been living through a nightmare, it is out of the question for us to allow a silence which means consent to the crushing of the Iraqi left.

“Father Sunni, mother Shia mother, myself atheist of the John Lennon tendency”, says Oday Rasheed, a young film-maker, when he is asked about his ethnic and religious origin. For generations Iraq has been a country that enjoys a long tradition of writing, creation and scholarship. It is not the country depicted for us which, in order to get rid of the barbarity of a military occupation, is rushing to embrace the barbarity of a fundamentalist regime. Our enemies' enemies are not automatically our friends. To reject the coalition occupation and its puppet Governing Council, even in the guise of “anti-imperialism”, is not necessarily to support reactionary, nationalist and religious forces, i.e.

the worst enemies of liberty and equality. “After getting rid of Saddam, Iraq should get rid of his ideas”, says Yanar Mohammed, of the Organisation for Women's Freedom in Iraq, who has received death threats for her fight against Sharia law. But the USA is supporting the return of Baathist leaders to positions in government, army and administration. Left organisations exist in Iraq today - a social movement expressing a social and feminist alternative and rejecting both military occupation and nationalist, ethnicist or religious reaction. Unemployed people who organise a forty-five day long sit-in in front of the office of Paul Bremer, the civil representative of the coalition; women who call demonstrations bare-headed against Sharia law; strikers who expel the corrupt management of their factory; refugees struggling for decent housing and the basic right to live; workers who stop the al Sadr militias taking over their factory: that's the other face of Iraq, the one we hear less about. Every

day, struggles, strikes and demonstrations express the radical desire to live and not survive. And what do they face? Bayonets, militias, fatwas, torture... Going beyond anti-war slogans, it is an urgent task to help develop concrete solidarity with the progressive, secular, social, and feminist movement in Iraq. Unions and women's and unemployed associations lack the means to organise effectively, to spread their ideas across the country and make themselves known internationally, and to put in place the most elementary means of subsistence. Our internationalist solidarity can help them to distribute food or medicine to refugees, homeless, and the poorest-people; to acquire offices and means of communication and self-defence; and to organise their struggles and take forward their demands.

A vice is tightening on Iraqi society. Only the social movement can break it!

Statement of U.S. Labor against the War on the Occupation of Iraq

“We call for an end now to the U.S. occupation and for all military, political and economic authority to be transferred to the people of Iraq. . . . We call upon all public officials and candidates for office to oppose this war and the never-ending occupation and to support steps that can be taken immediately to end it. . . . It is time to acknowledge this tragic mistake and to hold to account Bush and those who prosecuted this disastrous war.”

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THE OCCUPATION OF IRAQ MUST END

The U.S. occupation of Iraq is in crisis. As any sensible union member knows, the first thing to do when you find you've dug yourself into a hole is to STOP DIGGING. The U.S. needs to find a way out of the mess that our government has gotten us into and stop digging this country deeper into Iraq. Every reason Bush gave for going to war — Iraq having weapons of mass destruction, Iraq collaborating with al Qaida and it being an imminent threat to the US — has been proven false.

Consider the following:

O As of the end of April, 738 U.S. troops have died (137 in April alone; 532 since George Bush provocatively declared Bring them on!). Through mid-April, more than 3,600 have been wounded in this unnecessary, unprovoked and long-planned war by the

Bush administration against Iraq. [<http://lunaville.org/warcasualties/Summmary.aspx>]

O 10,000 or more civilian Iraqis have been killed in the past year according to reliable international sources (the Occupation Authority refuses to keep count) and many thousands more were wounded. [<http://www.iraqbodycount.net/>] Estimates of Iraqi troop deaths range as high as 40,000.

O In the first three weeks of April, more than 1,100 Iraqis — hundreds of women, children and the elderly — lost their lives in Fallujah, in the Shiite neighborhoods of Baghdad and in the Shiite cities to the south. Fighting age young men have been barred from leaving Fallujah, while the U.S. has begun bombing heavily populated areas where tens of thousands of Iraqi civilians are forced to remain in their homes without access to food, water or medicine.

o Amnesty International has documented the torture of prisoners, demolition of homes and collective punishment of innocent civilians (all violations of international law) by the Occupation Authority.

O Senior Pentagon officials say the Iraq war is costing \$4.7 billion per month. The \$150 billion already spent on Bush's folly (and additional \$50 billion or more he will reportedly seek after the election if he wins) have padded the profit margins of Halliburton, Bechtel and his other corporate cronies while electricity, clean water, food and jobs remain in short supply for most Iraqis.

O Meanwhile, social programs in the U.S. are being savaged. State and local governments are being driven into fiscal crisis. Our own democratic liberties are being eroded in the name of national security. Economic inequality is growing. Millions remain jobless or marginally employed in low-wage non-union jobs. The Bush administration has painted a bulls eye on the labor movement. Those who question or challenge the direction

the president is taking the nation are accused of being unpatriotic or, worse, aiding the enemy.

O Iraqi army and police units trained by the U.S. refused to join the U.S. troops in their assault on Fallujah and other towns, and the U.S.-appointed Governing Council (never accepted as legitimate representatives by the Iraqi people) has had serious defections, infighting and a further decline in their already low standing. The Coalition is falling apart as other governments respond to the demand of their people to get out of Iraq.

O There is widespread cynicism about the U.S. plan for the alleged transition to Iraqi “sovereignty” on June 30. Continued U.S. military, economic and political domination make the notion of Iraqi sovereignty laughable. The U.S. plans to maintain a military force of as many as 130,000 troops on fourteen permanent military bases currently under construction, and the U.S. military insists on command authority over the newly created Iraqi military and police forces. The Coalition Provisional Authority will be replaced by a massive U.S. embassy staff, perhaps the largest in the world, with over 3000 employees. Bush's plan to sell Iraq's economic resources to the highest bidder is still high on his agenda. Rather than a path to democratic self-rule, this is a roadmap to continued rebellion.

O Sunni and Shiite communities have united in their opposition to the occupation. Recent events demonstrate that this opposition is gaining support among ever wider sections of the population, transcending religious and ethnic allegiances. U.S. credibility is at an all-time low, both in Iraq and around the world.

O In line with Bush's assaults on organized labor here at home, the Occupation Authority continues to enforce Saddam Husseins 1987 law banning unions and bargaining in all state enterprises where the vast majority of Iraqis ...**To P.5**

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with jobs are employed. Despite repression and harassment, newly organized independent democratic Iraqi unions struggle for recognition and to improve the desperate conditions that Iraqi working people, with and without jobs, experience.

O The morale of U.S. forces is declining rapidly as the casualties mount and active duty time is extended for the already exhausted and emotionally shattered troops, thousands of whom are reservists and members of the National Guard, not professional soldiers. The people our troops are told they have come to liberate are now shouting and shooting at them. Military families at home struggle to survive. More and more families are speaking out against the occupation and the directionless U.S. strategy in Iraq.

O Public support for the war has dipped to 47%, down from 58% in March and 63% in December. Public approval of Bush's handling of the war has dropped to 41%, down from 49% in March and 59% in December. Our Government's senseless war and occupation in Iraq have been met by worldwide outrage and have provoked acts of terror in retaliation. In short, our country and the world are not safer and the crisis in Iraq continues to deepen. Rather than a solution to terrorism, the occupation has become the cause of continuing hardship and violence, death and suffering. It is time to end the occupation!

We call for an end now to the U.S. occupation and for all military, political and economic authority to be transferred to the people of Iraq with the

full assistance of neutral members of the international community. The U.S. needs to leave and cede authority if the process of democratization and reconstruction has any hope of success. Ending the occupation does not end our obligation to pay for the rebuilding of Iraq, but that reconstruction should be under the control of Iraqis. We call upon all public officials and candidates for office to oppose this war and the never-ending occupation and to support steps that can be taken to immediately end it.

It is time to acknowledge this tragic mistake and to hold to account Bush and those who prosecuted this disastrous war. At the polls in November, let's resoundingly reject four more years of bravado, unilateralism, and squandering of precious lives and the public treasury on corporate cronyism, militarism, and global domination. In helping to defeat George W. Bush, the labor movement can demonstrate that the American people will turn out of office anyone who follows his policies of war, occupation, and attacks on working people. But no matter who is elected U.S. president in 2004, the anti-war movement, including its labor component, must be prepared to challenge U.S. foreign and domestic policies that harm our people and the peoples of the world and to hold all our elected officials to a course of peace and social justice at home and abroad.

U.S. Labor Against the War believes:

The Iraqi labor movement represents

the main progressive, secular force for a new, democratic, peaceful and prosperous Iraq. We pledge our ongoing solidarity with all genuine Iraqi labor organizations in their efforts to organize workers and win improved standards and living conditions for employed and unemployed workers.

We call for the full right of Iraqi workers to organize and bargain under internationally recognized ILO conventions. We pledge to work with the international labor movement to support the struggle of Iraqi unions to win these protections. We call upon all elected officials and candidates for office to publicly commit their support for labor rights as essential to a democratic, secular Iraq.

We support Iraqi unions and workers in their opposition to the privatization of Iraqi industry and support the full right of the Iraqis themselves, not U.S. or multinational corporations, to make all decisions about the future of their economy. The independent democratic unions of Iraq must be given a major role in the reconstruction of Iraq, decisions about the future of its economy and civic culture, and the creation of a stable, democratic secular state.

We call upon labor organizations and individual union members in the U.S. to contribute generously to the Iraqi Labor Solidarity Fund established by USLAW to offer concrete financial support to these struggling unions as they strive to restore Iraq to peace, democracy and prosperity. Donations to the fund can be made on the Internet at

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**No To America, No To Political Islam ,
For a Secular State in Iraq**

To: The Conference of the TUC in Britain.
(The Worker's Councils and Unemployed Unions in Iraq-UII & FWCUI need your support and solidarity).

The Workers' Unions

The leaders of trade unions.

The Organisations, and figures.

The U.S war, and the occupation of Iraq have subjected the Iraqi society to a complicated situation and resulted in disintegration of all civil society's elements and all the social services, and economic infrastructure gone to pieces. A dark is now being carried out in Iraq. The whole society is encountering hunger, and unemployment. The people of Iraq are deprived of the basic daily needs such as security, employment, medicine, and secular administration to protect the lives and rights of the people. The people are in grave danger of the political Islamic actions, the US military reactions, explosions, terrorist reactionary conflicts, militarizing the people's work living and working place, kidnapping journalists, and foreign workers, and beheading them in a most cruel and unprecedented way in human's history. All these are the out comes of the US occupation, and the terrorist conflict and struggle between the United States and political Islam which is unusual in contemporary history.

Our appeal and demand from the TUC conference and the trade unions, and the freedom seekers is to support the other force which stands against the terrorist front by its radical and human banners. It was you who stood against the war on Iraq and it gave people of Iraq a great hope and proved that our world is not only terrorists' grave yard, and it is not only warmongers' world. However, there is a radical, human, and strong front operates in the political arena and if we get together and unite, then the world would change to a peaceful, secure, and well-being world. A world free of terror, and terrorism. An egalitarian world, and freedom for all.

We under the leadership of the worker communist party of Iraq, were a part of your movement. Our demand from your conference today is the demand of a movement which sees its destiny from your solidarity for a better world. The worker's movement,

and organisations in Iraq are in more need than any other time for your support. A support to enable the workers to establish a government that recognizes their freedom and workers' rights and to save them from war, hunger, and unemployment.

The Unemployed Union in Iraq was established in May 2003 in Baghdad. The UII is the real representative of unemployed and the poor people of Iraq. The UII shoulder to shoulder with Workers' Councils and Unions came to existence with the demand of employment, or unemployment benefit.

The UII and Federation of Workers' Councils and Unions in Iraq(FWCUI) do have more than 300,000 members in Baghdad, Kirkuk, Basrah, Al-Nasryia, Musol, Sharaban, and branches in many other cities, and towns. They have organized tens of protest actions in front of the US administrator in Baghdad, Kirkuk, Basrah, and Nasryia, and more than 45 days strike in front of Paul Bremer's office. Consequently Qasim Hadi, the General Secretary of the UII, along with 55 members of the UII were arrested by the US military forces. The out come of these protest actions was that the UII was able to secure more thousands of work opportunities, for unemployed people, and free medical services for workers. The workers of Water, Electricity, Transport, Petroleum, Rail ways, and hospitals are members of the UII.

The struggle, and achievements of the UII and FWCUI have always worried the American administrator, and current Iraqi interim government. Therefore, the interim government, the remnants of the Baath party, Iraqi Communist party, the Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq, National Accord, and Arabic nationalists established their puppet trade unions called (IFTU) to cut in to pieces the ranks of the workers. These unions have no legitimacy, and they do not represent the workers and their demands. According to the new government's code , article 16: No workers' councils or unions are recognized apart from IFTU. This is the biggest threat to those worker organi-

sations, and trade unions which have been elected by workers representatives such as UII or FWCUI.

The UII does have its own paper called (Al-majales Al-umammalia) inside Iraq and a paper out side Iraq published in English called(Iraqi Workers voice). The UII and FWCUI have a representative network in European countries, Canada, and Australia to attract more international solidarity for workers of Iraq.

The workers movement, UII, and FWCUI, are now living in a hell created by the western militarism, and political Islam. They are looking forward to your support and solidarity and hoping that the TUC would put in its agenda and would demand with us the following:

- 1- Immediate pullout of the American and British military forces in Iraq.
- 2- Recognition of the UII and FWCUI as the genuine representatives of workers unions in Iraq.
- 3- Supporting a modern employment law written by the workers' representatives.
- 4- Unconditional freedom of organizing, strike, and other political rights to be established and ascertained.
- 5- Equality of men and women in all civil and individual rights and before the law.
- 6- Religion to be separated from the state, and education.

Dashty Jamal

Rep. network of the UII- Britain.

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