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The 10th report of the Committee of Advocating the Freedom of Press and Journalism Rights in Kurdistan, concerning (journalism status in Kurdistan)
01/07/2012 to 31/12/2012

The statistics of the violations of 2012 From 1/1/2012 to 31/12/2012

| No. | Kind of assault | Number of cases | The journalists faced assault |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Beating | 8 | 20 |
| 2 | Threatening | 12 | 16 |
| 3 | Prevention | 18 | 36 |
| 4 | Detention | 19 | 27 |
| 5 | Kidnapping | 1 | 1 |
| 6 | Fining | 2 | 2 |
| 7 | Arrests | 2 | 2 |
| 8 | Imprisonment | 1 | 1 |
| | Total | 63 | 105 journalists |

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Data

The statistics of the violations of the 9th report
From 1/1/2012 to 30/6/2012

| No. | Kind of assault | Number of cases | The journalists faced assault |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Beating | 5 | 6 |
| 2 | Threatening | 4 | 5 |
| 3 | Prevention | 12 | 18 |
| 4 | Detention | 17 | 22 |
| 5 | Kidnapping | 1 | 1 |
| 6 | Fining | 2 | 2 |
| Total | | 41 | 54 journalists |

The statistics of the violations of the 10th report
From 1/7/2012 to 31/12/2012

| No. | Kind of assault | Number of cases | The journalists faced assault |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Beating | 3 | 14 |
| 2 | Threatening | 8 | 11 |
| 3 | Prevention | 6 | 18 |
| 4 | Detention | 2 | 5 |
| 5 | Arrests | 2 | 2 |
| 6 | Imprisonment | 1 | 1 |
| Total | | 22 | 51 journalists |



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Declaration

Violation against Journalists is a direct violation of the journalism law in Kurdistan.

Today 1/7/2012, before noon, during the coverage of a gathering of the health-care workers of the Burn Section of the Rozhawa Emergency Hospital in Erbil, in spite of preventing the journalists of covering the gathering, the Zeravani forces insulted the journalists and damaged their equipments, and also a number of journalists have been beaten and injured.

We, as the Committee of Advocating the Freedom of Press and Journalism Rights in Kurdistan, strongly condemn the attack and insults against the journalists, which is no doubt a direct violation of journalism, freedom of press and press law in Kurdistan.

That kind of behaviors of Zeravani forces no matter what pretext they have, is a step towards narrowing the freedom

of press and violating the sovereignty of law in Kurdistan, that's why we ask the presidency of the parliament and the government and the concerned parties, to put an end to these violations against the journalists, follow up and make serious investigations and punish the violators according to law, who are a cause of distorting the experiment of Kurdistan.

Eventually, we the advocating committee, emphasize on broadening and achieving freedom of press in Kurdistan, which is the only step on the way of practicing democracy in Kurdistan.

Committee of Advocating the Freedom of Press and Journalism Rights in Kurdistan

July 1st, 2012

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Violations | Detention - Arrest - Imprisonment

| No. | Name of Journalist | Post and Media | Date and type of Violations |
|------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Detention (2 cases) | | | |
| 1 | Dilshad Abdula Husen Danial Hamza | KNN TV, Reporter KNN TV, Cameraman | 27/9/2012. While recording Maiki Azad Show (Free Microphone) in Khanaqeen, the police force of Khanaqeen prevents them of filming and detains them for a period of time. The Khanaqeen office Journalists Syndicate condemned this act in a later announcement. |
| 2 | Saman Najim Ziya Hamid Salam Abdulla | Kurdsat TV, Reporter Kurdsat TV, Cameraman Journalist | 5/11/2012. While covering a story on Article (140), they were detained by Iraqi Army's Dijla Operation at Qaratapa checkpoint for a period of time. |
| Arrest (2 cases) | | | |
| 1 | Kamaram Omar Hamdan | Broadcast Technician at Erbil's Yakgrtu TV Channel. | According to a complaint filed to our Advocating Committee, in 13/9/2012, a group of Asayish brake into his house without prior notice, they arrest him and later he comes out on bail and they tell him that he was arrested by mistake. |
| 2 | Zana Fatah | Charmu monthly magazine in Chamchamal. | After publishing an article in Charmu monthly magazine, in 6/11/2012 he was caught the police of Chamchamal and detained for 6 days. |
| Imprisonment (1 Case) | | | |
| 1 | Karzan Karim | Khandan institution. By a decision of the Syndicate Council in 18/1/2009, He was made active member of the Kurdistan's Journalists Syndicate, and in 19/1/2009 he was employed as an officer of Asyish. | In 7/10/2012, the criminal court of Erbil sentenced him two years in prison, and this was according to the articles (1 an 2) of the parliament law number (21) of the year 2003. |

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Violations | Hindering

| No. | Name of Journalist | Post and Media | Date and type of Violations |
|---------------------|---|--|---|
| Hindering (6 cases) | | | |
| 1 | Jalal Ahmad Kakamin | Sahand Media and Publishing house | According to a complaint submitted to our Advocating Committee, he was prevented of preparing his report by the guards of the Deputy President of Kurdistan in 10/7/2012. |
| 2 | Dilan Rauf Salih | Gali Kurdistan, Reporter. | In 11/9/2012, while the inspection committee of the restaurants from the Government's monitoring committee were inspecting a restaurant, he was prevented of preparing his report by the owner of the restaurant and its workers, and they broke his journalism equipments. |
| 3 | A number of reporters of the Media Channels | Khandan Website Zari Kirmanji KNN Furat News Hawlati | 7/11/2012. In order to cover the effects of the shelling the villages of the foots of Qandil mountain, a number of journalists from Soran and Balakayati area wanted to go to Qandil mountain foot, but they were prevented by the Gojar checkpoint. Ismail Ibrahim the secretary of the Kurdistan Journalists Syndicate's office in Soran, condemned those violations in a press conference. |
| 4 | Himdad Qadir Zozg Chomani Ramal Qasrayi | KNN TV, Reporter Hawlati Newspaper, Reporter Khandan Website, Reporter | In 9/11/2012, the Gojar checkpoint of the Asaiys prevented them of covering the aftermath of the shelling of the villages of the foot of Qandil mount |
| 5 | Ayaz Akram Shorshvan Doski | NRT channel, Reporter NRT channel, cameraman | In 19/11/2012, the guards of Domez camp didn't let them to prepare a report concerning the distribution of the charities over the homeless of Western Kurdistan. |
| 6 | Hiwa Abuzed Mahr Sabri | Bdinan Sat, Reporter Badinan Sat, Cameraman | 29/11/2012. They were prevented of shooting a report by the police in Domez camp in Duhok, they were detained for a while and damaged their film. |

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Violations | Threatening

| No. | Name of Journalist | Post and Media | Date and type of Violations |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|
| Threatening (8 Cases) | | | |
| 1 | Soran Dawdi | Alhuriya, Reporter | 15/7/2012. He was threatened by the Arabic Political Council; under the pretext he is not reporting the events as they are. |
| 2 | Kawa Ahmad Muhamad | Garan Magazine | Because of publishing the picture of a PUK official in Garan Magazine, he was insulted and threatened of Killing through a phone call by the official on 24/7/2012. |
| 3 | Zmnako Ismail | Sbay Website, Reporter | Because of publishing an article in Sibay Website, on 11/9/2012, he was threatened to be killed. |
| 4 | Aram Muhamad Rashhid, Saman Shekh Baba Ali | Honya Magazine | In 22/9/2012, they were threatened by KDP, because of publishing a picture of the President of Kurdistan, and in the same day the manager of the magazines office in Erbil was threatened of death. |
| 5 | Akad Murad | Bahra Newspaper Syndicate Council Member | In 29/9/2012, he was threatened to death and insulted via the phone No. (07506783170) |
| 6 | Editor-in-Chief Editing Manager | Chirka Magazine | 19/10/2012, after publishing an article under the title (According a classified document, PUK placed Hawlati newspaper and its Editor-in-Chief under the PUK's comand. |
| 7 | Jalal Ahmad Barzenji | Facebook Magazine | According to a complaint that has been submitted to the Advocating Committee, he was attacked and threatened to be killed by a number of people while he was covering a report in 5/11/2012. |
| 8 | Dilan Rashad Abdulla Khalil Qadir Rasul | Zagros TV, Reporter Zagros TV, Cameraman | In 6/11/2012 while covering the demonstration of the graduates of College of Economy and Administration they were threatened and insulted by the parliament's private police. |

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Violations | Beating

| No. | Name of Journalist | Post and Media | Date and type of Violations |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|
| Beating (two group cases) | | | |
| 1 | Hawkar Fawzy Ismail, Niyaz Mahmud Muhamad, Haryad Karim Ismail, Yousif Mustafa Khirwatani, Alwand Hamid, Sayaf Ahmad Ali, Barzan Hasan, Hasam Hamdi, Hawkar Abdulrahman, Hoshiyar Kakl, Nabard Husen, Mufid Faysal | Payam TV, Reporter Payam TV, Camera Man. GK TV, Reporter GKTV, Cameraman Speda TV, Reporter Speda TV, Cameraman NRTchannel, Reporter NRTchannel, Cameraman Kurdsat TV, Reporter Kurdsat TV, Cameraman KNN TV, Reporter KNN TV, Cameraman. | On 1/7/2012, when the health workers of Rozhawa Emergency Hospital in Erbil were on strike, the Zera-vani guards of the hospital attacked the journalists who were covering the event, and in spite of assaults and humiliations, a number of journalists were injured; and after that a committee was formed between the Ministry of Interior and the Kurdistan Journalists Syndicate in order to investigate the case and punish assaulters, and giving the instructions of the Ministry of Interior to their forces in order to abide by the journalism law number (35), but unfortunately however the agreement was signed, but the Ministry of Interior never took actions and the agreement was neglected, and the Advocating Committee and the Kurdistan Journalists Syndicate condemned the violations in two different announcements. |
| 2 | Jafar Husen Salih | Malband Radio Station, reporter | 23/9/2012. While covering a demonstration in Arbat-Sulaimaniyah, he was beaten by the Civil Operations Police. |
| 3 | Hiwa Osman | Payam TV | He was beaten and insulted by the guards of the Amir of Komal Islamic Party. He reported to the Advocating Committee: "the guards of the Amir of Komaly Islam attacked me", but he later was apologized to with the personal mediation of the Amir. |

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the prime Minister promised that, from now and on there will be strict action against those who brake law and violate the rights of journalists, but that promise have never been put into action so far, and it remained without any result.

Committee of Advocating the Freedom of Press and Journalism Rights in Kurdistan will continue to defend the rights and freedom of journalists in Kurdistan, and make every modern and civil action in order to realize the freedom of press in Kurdistan, and we ask all the concerned parties to abide by the laws and freedom of Press, which is the guarantee of the success and developing the rule of the people

of Kurdistan, and in the same time we ask the journalists to abide by the professional codes and ethics of journalism and the law of journalism in Kurdistan, and in the case of facing any assault or violation of their professional rights, whether by the media organizations they work for or by the interior forces, or any other person or party, to report to the advocating committee and resort to the courts, in order to investigate their case.

Committee of Advocating
the Freedom of Press and Journalism Rights
in Kurdistan

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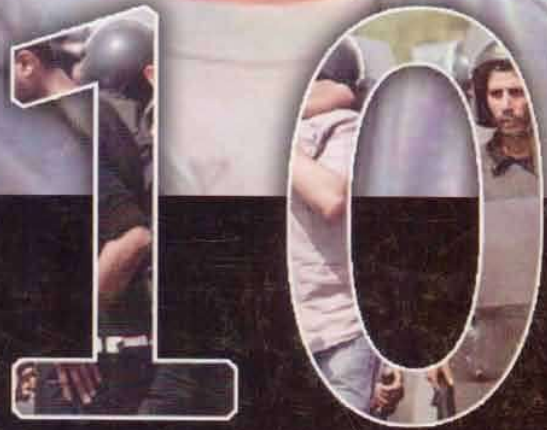
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Preface

Advocating the rights and freedom of press is the duty, responsibility, main slogan and top priority of the Kurdistan Journalists Syndicate. In this respect, the Kurdistan Journalists Syndicate and Committee of Advocating the Freedom of Press and Journalism Rights in Kurdistan make all their efforts to achieve freedom of press in Kurdistan, because we believe freedom of press is the spine of building a democratic, civil and modern society; and from this point of view, the Committee of Advocating Freedom of Press and Journalism Rights in Kurdistan publishes its 10th report on the present situation of journalism in Kurdistan, and the statistics on the violations against journalists in the past 6 months in Kurdistan.

The statistics show that the violations in the past 6 months are less, compared to the first 6 months of 2012, but this does not mean there have not been any violations against journalists at all, but the statistic show that there are still violations against journalists in Kurdistan, specially group violations still happening, and journalists are facing threats, humiliation, assaults, confiscation of journalism equipment, and even arrests by internal forces, Asayish (secret police), police, Zeravani, and...etc.

Although in some places the courts do not work with the law (35) of press and use other laws, but it is promising that most of the judges in Kurdistan, work with the law (35) of press in the case of journalists. In the 5 past years, the Committee of Advocating the Freedom of Press and Journalism Rights in Kurdistan, has published 9 reports concerning the situation of journalism and violations, and observed the situation of journalism, and in the same time urged the concerned parties of KRG in order to make serious investigations for the violations cases conducted against journalists and determine the reasons and prevent the recurrence of such cases, but in this report the Advocating Committee frankly announces that, The Ministry of Interior in KRG, has many times formed committees in order to follow up and investigate the violations, but until now no one of the Asayish, police or Zeravani forces have been punished for those violations against the journalists, except in one case, when the Directorate of Traffic Police of Erbil took measures and punished those who assaulted journalists. However in the last meeting of the council of the syndicate with the Prime Minister of the Kurdistan Regional Government in 16/05/2012,



Report 10 Violations

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