

# ***KURDISH BUREAU*** ***for Liaison and Information***

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## **ACTIVITIES OF THE KURDISH BUREAU** ***May 2010***

### **CONFERENCE**



#### ***09.05.2010 : Social dialogue in Belgium***

François Sant'Angelo, lawyer at the Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism gave a historical background of the social security in Belgium :

In 1944, after the second world war, an agreement called « Social pact » was signed between the employers and trade unions in order to recognize social rights

of the employees : health insurance, pension, unemployment indemnity but also to recognize that the companies were a factor of prosperity in a country. From the 50s on, this collaboration was not sufficient anymore and the state had to intervene in this dialogue. Nevertheless, this period is to be considered as one of important economical prosperity for Belgium as well as for the social well being of the workers class. This situation lasted until the 70s and these years were called the « Glorious 30s ». The Belgian social model has been often held up as an example for the rest of Europe. But when the oil crisis stroke Europe between 1973 and 1979, the economical situation in Belgium became worse. Under the influence of a reconversion decided too late, inflation and structural unemployment appeared and has still its consequences today. This period, not yet ended at the beginning of the new century, is called « the seditious 30s ».

Nowadays, because of the big economical world crisis and the effects of globalization, Belgium and the European Union should change their policy. Bank employees and investors should be more severely controlled.

# NEWS FROM KURDISTAN

May 2010

## KURDISTAN OF TURKEY

### AN ASSISTANT MAYOR ARRESTED

*The 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2010*, the assistant to the mayor of Şirnak in Kurdistan of Turkey, Abdulaziz Bilgi, has been arrested when leaving the prison of type E in Mardin and has been brought to the head quarter of security of this town. Bilgi was visiting his brother who's imprisoned there. The reason for his arrest is unknown. ([avestakurd.net](http://avestakurd.net), 01.05.2010)

### THE KURDISH DEPUTIES BOYCOTTED A LAW

*The 03rd of May 2010*, the Turkish parliament voted a change of article 8 concerning the banning of political parties, this within the project of change of the Turkish constitutional law dating from the military coup of 12.09.1980. The change's purpose making it more difficult to close political parties, has not been accepted by the majority of the parliamentarians : Instead of a minimum of 330 votes needed, only 327 voted in favor of the change. The two Turkish opposition parties, MHP (fascists) and CHP (nationalists) and certain deputies of the Islamic governing AKP voted against. The Kurdish deputies of the BDP, which replaces the recently banned DTP, didn't even enter in the benches and boycotted in this way the change.

Many Kurds, including party members criticized this attitude. Most Turkish intellectuals who support the Kurdish issue were very surprised. The former parliamentary group leader of the Kurdish DTP and former chairman of the party, Ahmet Türk, stated to the Turkish magazine Aksiyon that the attitude of his party members disappointed him and that the fact of voting the same as members of the MHP and CHP is harmful for him. Osman Özçelik, deputy from Siirt for the BDP and Ufuk Uras, deputy from Istanbul complained because of the attitude of their party.

Because of these critics, the BDP has organized a meeting and stated that it concerns «a red line ». PKK-leader Abdullah Öcalan from his side, criticized the attitude of the opponents of the BDP and called on them to protest against the Turkish governing party AKP ! ([Hürriyet, netkurd.com](http://Hürriyet.netkurd.com), 03.05.2010 ; [Hebdomadaire Rudaw](http://HebdomadaireRudaw.com), 04.05.2010)

### BOMBING OF IRAQI KURDISTAN

*The 10th of May 2010*, Turkish artillery forces bombed the border region of Şêladizê in the province of Duhok in Iraqî Kurdistan. One building fell in and its owner,

Rêkan Huseyn, was killed. His wife and three children have been seriously injured.

([peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), 11.05.2010 ; [avestakurd.net](http://avestakurd.net), [kurdistan-news.net](http://kurdistan-news.net), 12.05.2010)

*The 20th of May 2010*, the regions of Haftanîn and Xarkurk have been bombed. The Turkish army has even deployed in the neighborhood.

([rudaw.net](http://rudaw.net), [rizgari.org](http://rizgari.org), [kurdistan-news.net](http://kurdistan-news.net), 21.05.2010)

### JOURNALIST CONDEMNED TO 166 YEARS AND SIX MONTHS IN PRISON!

*The 13th of May 2010*, a Turkish court of Diyarbakir in Kurdistan of Turkey condemned the former editor of the Kurdish daily Azadiya Welat, Vedat Kurşun, to 166 years and 6 months imprisonment because of «propaganda for a terroristic organization » !

Kurşun, in prison since February 2008, is accused of having published at 103 different occasions news, events and photos concerning the PKK. His lawyers stated that they will appeal.

Reporters Without Borders condemned strongly this decision and called on the European Union to do the same.

The Kurdish government protested sharply against these repeated attacks.

([AFP](http://AFP), [peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), 13.05.2010 ; [nefel.com](http://nefel.com), 15.05.2010)

### CONTINUATION OF THE « ERGENEKON » TRIAL

*The 14th of May 2010*, a police action has been organized in 11 Turkish towns, including Istanbul, Ankara and Konya, in which 30 persons have been arrested, related to the Ergenekon trial.

Ergenekon is an obscure organization, responsible for numerous non elucidated murders (see previous newsletters).

([netkurd.com](http://netkurd.com), 14.05.2010)

### INTERNET SITES OF TWO KURDISH TOWNS IN KURDISH

*The 15th of May 2010*, after several municipalities of Diyarbakir, the city of Van in Kurdistan of Turkey also

opened an internet site in Kurdish, added to the existing pages in English and Turkish : [www.van.bel.tr](http://www.van.bel.tr) The mayor of Van, Bekir Kaya, stated that 15 May is the day of the Kurdish language festival. ([netkurd.com](http://netkurd.com), 15.05.2010)

#### **A KURDISH LEADER CONDEMNED**

*The 17th of May 2010*, the 5<sup>th</sup> Heavy Penal Court of Diyarbakir condemned the chairman of the Siirt section of the unofficial BDP, Sıdıq Taş, to seven years and one month imprisonment for « propaganda for an organization ».

The 09th of October 2009, Sıdıq Taş had organized an activity in occasion of the 10th imprisonment anniversary of PKK-leader Abdullah Öcalan. ([avestakurd.net](http://avestakurd.net), 18.05.2010)

#### **KURDISH LEADERS MEET MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

*The 19th of May 2010*, Turkish minister of Internal Affairs Beşir Atalay welcomed co-chairman of the Kurdish BDP Selahattin Demirtaş and vice-chairwoman of this group in parliament, Mrs Ayla Akat Ata. Demirtaş expressed to him her doubts about the process of « Kurdish opening ». The minister answered him that it is not finished and will be continued. He added that the dialogue between the two sides was not sufficient and that he will reinforce it. ([rizgari.org](http://rizgari.org), 21.05.2010)

#### **TURKISH PRESIDENT AND THE KURDISH ISSUE**

*The 23rd of May 2010*, when Turkish president Abdullah Gül flew to Kazakistan, he declared to journalists accompanying him that the most important problem Turkey has to deal with is the Kurdish issue and that it should be resolved in a democratic way. He added also that the democratic opening is a historical occasion and should not be lost. ([avestakurd.net](http://avestakurd.net), 24.05.2010)

#### **TUSIAD AND THE KURDISH ISSUE**

*The 23rd of May*, at a meeting organized by TÜRK-ONFED, the chairwoman of the Association of Turkish Industrials and Businessmen. (TUSIAD), Mr. Ümit Boyner stated that the Kurdish issue should not be considered as a local issue. She affirmed that this issue is a sign of lack of democracy in Turkey. ([aknews.com](http://aknews.com), 24.05.2010)

#### **A KURDISH ORGANISATION DISSOLVED**

*Le 26 May 2010*, the Court of First Instance of Diyarbakir decided to dissolve Goç Der, an organization for help to refugees. It is accused of conducting separatist activities.

The 13th of March 2006, the police had entered its offices, confiscated campaign pamphlets entitled « I consider Mister Öcalan as my political will » and put its leaders into custody. The chairman of this organization, Huseyin Daş, has been imprisoned and the other leaders liberated. When the trial had been rejected by the 1<sup>st</sup> Court of Diyarbakir, the general prosecutor appealed to the High Court. The latter had decided to dissolve Diyar Koç Der and the court of Diyarbakir executed the order. ([netkurd.com](http://netkurd.com), 27.05.2010)

#### **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT**

*In May 2010*, Amnesty International published its report of 2010 concerning the situation of human rights in the world.

Concerning Turkey, the report mentions that there is little progress in the field of protection of human rights but Turkey is accused of not controlling the increasing abuse in different other fields. The trials are long and unfair. Suspects and children face criminal charges based on the anti-terrorism law ... People who express their opinion in a non violent way, especially in criticizing the situation of the Kurds and the Armenians, are punished because the police starts an investigation and charges against them. Among them, authors, journalists, political activists and human rights associations ... ([azady.nl](http://azady.nl), *Today's Zaman*, 28.05.2010)

#### **MORE OIL FOUND IN KURDISTAN**

*In May 2010*, oil research teams discovered 7 first class oil sources near Diyarbakir, principal town in Kurdistan of Turkey. ([peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), 29.05.2010)

#### **200 PEOPLE ARRESTED**

*The 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2010*, 200 people were arrested after a vast operation against the KCK (Association of the Kurdish Society) started in April 2009 in different Kurdish and Turkish towns. After a trial, 44 persons were found guilty and imprisoned. Among them leaders of the unofficial Kurdish BDP, students and human rights defenders. They are accused of membership of an organization and support to terrorist acts.

Until now, thousands of people have been put in custody and nearly 1.500 are still in prison. ([pukmedia.com](http://pukmedia.com), 29.05.2010)

#### **METAL WALL AT SYRIAN BORDER**

The Turkish authorities are building a metal wall of 4 meters height along the Syrian border separating the district of Nusaybin belonging to Mardin from the city of Kamichli (Qamişli), in Kurdistan of Syria. Their excuse being mines found in this area, which could be dangerous for playing children.

*The 28th of May 2010*, the city council of Nusaybin compared this wall to the «Wall of Berlin» and asked

the leader of this area to remove the mines instead of building a wall.  
([rudaw.net](http://rudaw.net), 30.05.2010)

## KURDISTAN OF IRAQ

### CHIEF OF ARMY SADDAM HUSEYN IN SWEDEN

*The 04th of May 2010*, a delegation of the Kurdish organization Kurdocide Watch-CHAK went to the head quarter of the Swedish police to contest the decision to grant asylum to the chief of the army of Saddam Hussein Muhammed Kemal Abed, taken by the Swedish government on 20.11.2009.

The delegation was composed of the vice-chairman of CHAK, Gabar Çiyan, the chairman of the Swedish section of CHAK, Kader Nadir and journalist Şilan Saîdî. She showed the Swedish police documents proving that Muhammed Kemal Abed had a capital role in the manufacturing, testing and use of chemical and nuclear weapons in Iraq. He had used these arms against the Kurdish people in the Anfall-campaign (the loot) between 1987 and 1989.

([CHAK](http://CHAK), [EuroKurd News](http://EuroKurdNews), [peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), [netkurd.com](http://netkurd.com), 04.05.2010)

### A STUDENT KIDNAPPED AND ASSASINATED

*The 04th of May 2010*, Serdeşt Osman, student in journalism at the University of Hewlêr (Erbil) has been kidnapped near the faculty of arts of the same university.

*The 06th of May 2010*, his body has been found near Mossoul. Big demonstrations have taken place at different Kurdish universities and protests within and outside Iraqi Kurdistan. The Kurdish authorities promised in-depth investigation concerning this murder.

([rudaw.net](http://rudaw.net), [pukmedia.com](http://pukmedia.com), [netkurd.com](http://netkurd.com), [avestakurd.net](http://avestakurd.net), [kurdistan-news.net](http://kurdistan-news.net), 06.05.2010)

### A DELEGATION VISITS THE MAYOR OF DIYARBEKIR

*The 05th of May 2010*, a PDK-delegation (Democratic Party of Kurdistan) chaired by Serbest Lezgîn and composed of 15 persons, visited the mayor of Diyarbakir, Osman Baydemir in Kurdistan of Turkey.

The purpose of this visit was to pay tribute to and to restore tombs of Iraqi Kurds who died in refugee camps in Mûş, Diyarbakir and Qoser after having fled Saddam Hussein's repression in 1991 (this year, more than a million of Iraqi Kurds fled to Turkey and Iran).

([nefel.com](http://nefel.com), [netkurd.com](http://netkurd.com), [avestakurd.net](http://avestakurd.net), [hebdomadaire](http://hebdomadaire) [Rûdaw](http://Rûdaw), 06.05.2010)

### KURDISH ALLIANCE IN BAGHDAD

*The 09th of May 2010*, after several months of meetings with different Kurdish political parties concerning the last Iraqi parliamentary elections, president Mesûd Berzanî announced that the Kurds will gather under one list in Baghdad. This alliance will consist of five parties PDK (Democratic Party of Kurdistan), UPK (Patriotic Union of Kurdistan), Goran (Change), Islamic Union of Kurdistan and Islamic Organization of Kurdistan.

([peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), [rudaw.net](http://rudaw.net), [aknews.com](http://aknews.com), 09.05.2010)

### VISIT OF A CZECH DELEGATION

*The 11th of May 2010*, President Mesûd Berzanî welcomed a delegation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, composed by the General Director for the non-European countries and cooperation to development, Vitezslav Grepi, the head of the department of the Near East and North Africa, Tomas Smeanka and also the ambassador of the Czech Republic in Iraq, Mrs. Bronislava Tomasova.

Mr. Grepi said that his country considers Iraq as an important partner and that most of its business and investment affairs use Kurdistan as an entrance gate to Iraq. He reminded that his country is the first to open an office in Kurdistan and added that he plans bilateral development in the field of education.

([peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), [pukmedia.com](http://pukmedia.com), 11.05.2010)

### ATTACKS IN THE ARABISED REGIONS OF KURDISTAN

*The 13th of May 2010*, a bomb exploded on a military car on the road to Kirkouk – district of Reşad. Two soldiers got injured. The same day, another bomb exploded on a car of a member of the provincial council of Kirkouk, Salaheddîn Elî Haşim, in the district of Dûz in the south of Kirkouk. Two of the guardians and one civilian have been injured.

([pukmedia.com](http://pukmedia.com), [aknews.com](http://aknews.com), 13.05.2010)

*The 21st of May 2010*, the head of the police for the area Urube, part of Kirkouk, Şêrzad Miweferî, stated that unknown armed individuals tried to kidnap the son of an officer of Kirkouk, Mr. Sesa Qadir Xidir, but

when they failed, they killed him and injured two members of his family.

*(rudaw.net, 22.05.2010)*

**The 31st of May 2010**, a bomb exploded on a car of the Kirkouk police. One policeman was killed and four others injured.

*(peyamner.com, 31.05.2010)*

#### **VISIT OF THE LEBANESE MINISTER OF EDUCATION**

**The 16th of May 2010**, President Mesûd Berzanî welcomed the Lebanese Minister of Education, Hesen Muneymine with his delegation. The Kurdish Minister of Education, Safin Dizeyî, also attended the meeting.

The Lebanese Minister stated that the purpose of this visit was to reinforce the relations between two sides in the field of education.

*(pukmedia.com, 16.05.2010)*

**The 18th of May**, the two ministers of education signed a Collaboration Protocol in the presence of several Kurdish and Lebanese leaders.

*(peyamner.com, 18.05.2010)*

#### **TURKISH-KURDISH FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION**

**The 20th of May 2010**, a three day' meeting has begun at the International Hotel of Erbil in Iraqi Kurdistan in order to create the Turkish-Kurdish Friendship Association.

The first day, the meeting was organized in the presence of Governor Newzad Hadî of Erbil and the former Minister of Culture Felekeddîn Kakeyî, who have both taken the floor. Afterwards, an artistic group presented a program of Sufi music symbolizing the human feelings founded on equality, peace, dialogue and interior peace. Next on the program was a group from Kurdistan of Iran presenting Kurdish dances.

The next day, Turkish and Kurdish intellectuals such as authors, researchers and academicians discussed the creation of an open dialogue between both sides. The same day, the participants also visited President Mesûd Berzanî.

The preparations for this association have begun since New Year. Its founders decided to edit a magazine in two languages treating social, political and cultural subjects in Turkey and Iraqi Kurdistan. This magazine will have the Kurdish name «Turkiyanasî» (Knowledge on Turkey) and the Turkish name «Dialogue».

*(nefel.com, 21.05.2010 ; netkurd.com, 22.05.2010)*

#### **KURDISH LEADERS IN MOSKOW**

**The 21st of May 2010**, the 4th Conference of Patriotic Parties has been convened by the chairman of the Russian Liberal Democratic Party, Vladimir Jirinovsky. The Kurdish delegation of the PDK (Democratic Party of Kurdistan) was composed by the secretary of the political bureau, Fazil Mîranî and by the representative of the Kurdish government of Iraq to Russia, Dr. Xoşevî Mella Ibrahim.

At the end of the conference, Mr. Jirinovsky said that it has been over 100 years that the United States and Europe haven't managed to solve the problem of 40 million of Kurds while they managed to create the state of Kosovo in ex-Yugoslavia and even recognized it. He added that the neglecting of the Kurdish issue is a disgrace for the world.

Then, Mr. Mîranî explained in a general way the political situation and state of security in the region of Kurdistan of Iraq and the last parliamentary elections in Iraq. He gave also an overview of the last 18 years of democratic experience in Kurdistan and said that thanks to this democracy, progress in the social, political, economic and cultural field has been booked and more than 20 countries, including Russia, opened consulates in Kurdistan. Two international airports make access for travelers easier.

*(peyamner.com, 21.05.2010 ; rizgari.org, 22.05.2010)*

#### **SYMPOSIUM IN BAGHDAD ON KURDISH PRESS OUTSIDE KURDISTAN**

**The 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 2010**, the Union of Journalists from Kurdistan in Baghdad organized a cultural symposium concerning Kurdish media outside Kurdistan of Iraq in the offices of «Şafak», Feyli «Shiite» Kurds.

Elî El-Feylî, chairman of the union made an inventory of audiovisual channels and publications existing in Kurdistan. The editor of the magazine «El-Teaxî» (Brotherhood), Bedir Xan Sindî, mentioned that the press outside Kurdistan is poor and suggested the creation of two satellite channels, the one Arabic and the other Kurdish. The first focusing on an Arabic audience in order to explain the events in Kurdistan and the second targeting the Kurds living outside Kurdistan, especially in Baghdad.

*(aknews.com, 22.05.2010)*

#### **KURDISH LANGUAGE COURSES FOR ARABS AND CHRISTIANS**

A Kurdish language course that has been organized during ten months for 500 Arabs and Christians refugees coming from the South of Iraq and living in Kurdistan now, has ended the **24<sup>th</sup> of May 2010**.

The degree ceremony was organized at the Ministry of Culture of Kurdistan. The Kurdish Minister of Educa-

tion, Sefin Dizeyî, stated that his ministry will continue this program in order to help the Arab Iraqi refugees to integrate in the Kurdish society.

[peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), 25.05.2010)

#### GERMAN TRADE OFFICE IN HEWLÊR

*The 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2010*, a German trade office for industrial and trade relations has been inaugurated in Hewlêr (Erbil) in the presence of the German Vice-Minister for Trade, Karl Ernest and some Kurdish ministers.

[peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), 27.05.2010 ; [rudaw.net](http://rudaw.net), 29.05.2010)

#### DELEGATION OF GERMAN JUDGES AND LAWYERS

*The 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2010*, President Mesûd Berzanî welcomed a delegation of German judges and lawyers. Dr. Enko, one of its members, affirmed that the Kurdish Ministry of Justice has realized important things and that the supremacy of the law is protected in Kurdistan. The delegation announced to be ready to train Kurdish lawyers and proposed to organize special seminars concerning important law matters in Kurdistan.

[peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), 27.05.2010)

#### SWEDISH TRADE MINISTER IN KURDISTAN



*The 30<sup>th</sup> of May 2010*, President Mesûd Berzanî welcomed the Swedish Minister for Trade, Eva Björling with a big delegation. The Kurdish Minister for Trade and Industry, Sinan Çelebî and many leaders were presents at this meeting. Mrs. Björn said that a big number of businessmen and industrials want to work in Kurdistan.

[peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), [avestakurd.net](http://avestakurd.net), 30.05.2010 ; [krg.org](http://krg.org), 31.05.2010)

## KURDISTAN OF IRAN

#### 5 PERSONS HANGED



*On 09 May 2010*, 5 persons, from which 4 Kurds of the PJAK (Iranian wing of the PKK) and a woman were hanged in the sinister prison of Evin in Teheran. Their names are Ferzad Kemanger, Alî Heyderiyan, Ferhad Vekilî, Şîrîn Elem Holî and Mehdi Eslamiyan.

[netkurd.com](http://netkurd.com), [peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), [kurdistan-news.net](http://kurdistan-news.net), 09.05.2010)

According to the English daily The Guardian, the Iranian army announced the state of urgency in Kurdistan after protests at the university of Teheran and in Kurdish towns as Piranşar, Sine, Mahabad, Kamyaran, Maku and Urmiye.

[netkurd.com](http://netkurd.com), [peyamner.com](http://peyamner.com), 11.05.2010 ; [rudaw.net](http://rudaw.net), [avestakurd.net](http://avestakurd.net), 12.05.2010)

The chairman of the European Parliament, Jerzy Buzek, condemned these hangings and called Iran to respect the international convention of human rights. He also underlined that the number of executions has increased during the last years.

[netkurd.com](http://netkurd.com), 12.05.2010)

Catherine Ashton, High representative for Foreign Affairs at the European Union, called Iran to find other punishments than hangings for “enemies of God”, justified by the Islamic law “Sharia”.

According to the press agency France Presse, this year’s number of executions in Iran is 61. Last year, at least 270 persons were hanged.

[AFP](http://AFP), [azady.nl](http://azady.nl), 13.05.2010)

**The 13<sup>th</sup> of May 2010**, the traders of the Kurdish cities Sine and Mahabad closed their shops and students of different Iranian universities suspended the classes. 15 students have been arrested in Merîwan. Demonstrations were held in several European countries. ([netkurd.com](#), [avestakurd.net](#), 13.05.2010)

**The 14<sup>th</sup> of May** the human rights organization in Kurdistan's leader Ijlal Ghawamî has been arrested in the region of Kurdistan. ([peyamner.com](#), [azady.nl](#), 15.05.2010)

**The 18<sup>th</sup> of May**, 15 students have been arrested in Merîwan in Kurdistan of Iran while they protested against the hangings of 5 persons on 9 May. 12 of them were liberated after having paid a ransom. The three others, Tofîq Partûyî, Dana Lenj Abadî and Aram Veysî were put in custody. Their families told that they were threatened and that they didn't have the right to follow the case during the coming 2 weeks.

A 15 year old Kurd called Enîs Şêx Ahmedî has been arrested by the secret services of Sanandaj during demonstrations on 13 May and disappeared since then. Witnesses declared that he was manhandled publicly when arrested. ([azady.nl](#), [IranFocus](#), 19.05.2010)

Xelîl Behramiyan, lawyer of one of the 5 hanged persons, has been arrested. He's a known lawyer since the

60s. He defended many young Kurds and made their case known in the world ([avestakurd.net](#), 20.05.2010)

**The 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2010**, the Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs, Maxime Verhagen, declared that is worried about the big number of executions in Iran today and in the future. ([azady.nl](#), 27.05.2010)

#### **BOMBING ON IRAQI KURDISTAN**

**The 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2010**, the Iranian artillery bombed the villages of Xanawa, Totma, Marado, Sûrkan and Nalya Reş at the border region with Iraq. ([AFP](#), [azady.nl](#), 17.05.2010)

**The 17<sup>th</sup> of May**, the villages of Bêrkim, Lola, Xinêre, Seroke and Nîsîn in the district of Sîdekan have been bombed. ([pukmedia.com](#), 17.05.2010)

**The 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of May**, the regions of Serşêxan and Kanîreş in the border region of Çoman, have been bombed. A 14 year old girl was killed and one person got injured. The mayor of Çoman declared that 120 families have fled.

The Kurdish government in Iraq protested against these repeated attacks. ([peyamner.com](#), [rudaw.net](#), [aknews.com](#), [pukmedia.com](#), [avestakurd.net](#), 30 et 31.05.2010)

## **KURDISTAN OF SYRIA**

#### **THE DAUGHTER OF A KURDISH POLITICIAN DEPRIVED OF HER RIGHTS**

**The 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2010**, the section of Palestine, secret services in Damascus, informed Viyan Abdulkêrîm Beşşar, daughter of Dr. Abdulkêrîm Beşşar, secretary of the Kurdish Democratic Party in Syria (El-Partî) that she's not authorized to leave Syria without their permission. They also told her she cannot work for public services after her studies because of the activities of her father and that her father could "disappear". ([kurdwatch.org](#), 05.05.2010)

#### **STUDENT IMPRISONED**

**The 29<sup>th</sup> of March 2010**, the secret services arrested senior student Reşo Ebbas Ibrahîm from Qamişlî (Kamichli) in Kurdistan of Syria and imprisoned him in Damascus. He's accused of having sympatized with the Kurdish « PYD » (Party for Democratic Union, Syrian wing of PKK). His family has no contact with him. ([kurdwatch.org](#), 09.05.2010)

#### **A KURD CONDEMNED TO FOUR YEARS IN PRISON**

**The 04<sup>th</sup> of May 2010**, the State Supreme Court of Damascus condemned Hafîz Micwel Şîndî to four years in prison according to article 278. He was arrested on the 1st of June 2008 for unknown reasons. He's a immigrated worker who lived in Cyprus until summer 2007. ([kurdwatch.org](#), 15.05.2010)

#### **POLITICIAN ARRESTED**

**The 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2010**, the national security services of Qamişlî arrested Muhammed Ebdî Se'dûn, member of the politburo of the Kurdish Azadî (Party of Liberty in Syria). He had been summoned before by the national security services. The reasons for his arrest are unknown. ([kurdwatch.org](#), 22.05.2010)

## DIFFICULTIES TO OBTAIN IDENTITY PAPERS

According to the internet site [www.kurdwatch.org](http://www.kurdwatch.org), persons living outside Syria cannot obtain identity papers anymore without the permission of the Syrian secret services. According to this site, the direction of the national secret services sent a list of persons living abroad to the municipalities' registry offices and ordered them not to register these people nor their fami-

lies without their permission. Most of the persons appearing on the list are Kurdish. There are also some Arabic and Christian names.

The site managed to obtain the names of 30 persons originated from the city of Tîrbêsîpî in Kurdistan of Syria.

[kurdwatch.org](http://kurdwatch.org), [avestakurd.net](http://avestakurd.net), 27.05.2010)

## KURDISH CULTURAL NEWS

### INTERNATIONAL POETRY FESTIVAL IN ISTANBUL

*The last week of April 2010*, as every year at the same period, the International Poetry Festival ŞiirIstanbul » was organized. Two Kurdish poets from Turkey, Hasan Sağlam and Latif Epözdemir and two Kurdish poets from Iraq, Dr. Bedir Xan Sindî and Nahid Huseynî read from their poems. Other Kurds writing in Turkish as Muslim Çelik, Arzu Alır, Keziban Karaaslan, Şenel Gökçe, Sema Güler and Enver Bulut also participated. The Kurdish singer Rojîn gave a concert and participated in the end ceremony of the festival at the Dede-man hotel. At the end of the festival, Kurdish poets and artists received an award. Guests had come from Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Russia, Romania, Bulgaria, Palestine, Greece, Chechnya, the three parts of Kurdistan and Armenia.

Kurdish poets not only participated in this festival but contributed also to cultural activities organized by several Turkish universities and schools such as Boğazcı, Kasımpaşa and Şişli Terakki where they performed Kurdish songs and poems. They also participated in this kind of activities at the centers of Sesam (centre of film artists), YKK (centre of the Yapı Kredi bank), Centre for Engineers and at the TMMOB (Association of Industrials) at Galatasary, at the Foundation of the famous poet Nazim Hikmet and at the Kurdish theatre Seyrî Mesel.

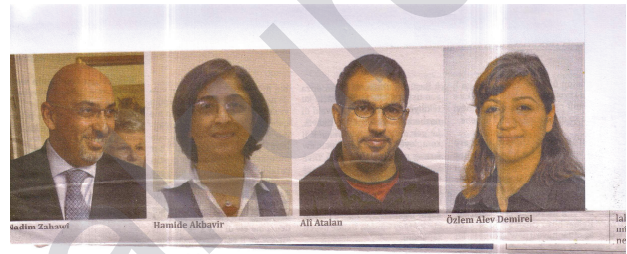
### CONFERENCE ON KURDISH LITERATURE IN KURDISTAN OF IRAN

*The 05<sup>th</sup> and the 06<sup>th</sup> of May 2010*, the university of Kurdistan in Sine (Sanandaj) in Kurdistan of Iran, organized a conference on Kurdish literature. All universities where literature is taught were invited. 41 experts took the floor. They are originated from following countries : Kurdistan of Iraq, Turkey, Australia, France, Bulgaria and different regions of Iran and Turkey.

The preparations for this conference have lasted six months and the conference was composed of seven working groups.

[kurdistan-news.net](http://kurdistan-news.net), 15.05.2010)

### FOUR KURDISH DEPUTIES IN ENGLAND AND GERMANY



*The 06<sup>th</sup> of May 2010*, a Kurd from Iraq, Nahdîm Zahawî has been elected at the parliamentary elections in Great Britain on the list of the winning conservatory party.

Nahdîm Zahawî is a businessman, owner of the research company YouGov and lives in the region of Strafford-on-Avon. He obtained 26.052 votes (50.5%) despite of the fact that little Kurds live in his region. It is the first time that a Kurd becomes deputy in this country.

[netkurd.com](http://netkurd.com), [avestakurd.net](http://avestakurd.net), 07.05.2010 ; [peymaner.com](http://peymaner.com), 08.05.2010)

*The 08<sup>th</sup> of May 2010*, during regional elections in Germany 3 Kurds from Turkey, including two women, have been elected for the parliament of Nordrhein-Westfalen (NRW) on the list of the left party, DIE LINKE : Ali Atalan (8th), Özlem Alev Demirel (9th) and Hamide Akbayır (11th).

[netkurd.com](http://netkurd.com), 09.05.2010, [hebdomadaire Rûdaw](http://hebdomadaire.Rûdaw), N° 44, 11.05.2010)

### CONFERENCE ON THE KURDISH LANGUAGE IN DIYARBEKIR

*The 08<sup>th</sup> and the 09<sup>th</sup> of May 2010*, the working group « Why don't the Kurds speak Kurdish » from the association Kurdî-Der organized a two day conference in



the rooms of the Social Services of the Sumer Park in Diyarbekir. The representatives of civil society organizations and social services participated.

Nearly 70 linguists, authors, journalists, representatives of associations and political parties have given their point of view on this subject.

The participants first discussed the reasons for which the Kurds doesn't speak their language and attributed it to the assimilation policy conducted by the Turkish State and the lack of education in the Kurdish language. Then they concluded that the Kurds should take advantage of occasions such as « the preparing of the bases of Kurdish schools », the increasing number of Kurdish publications, the existence of Kurdish authors, intellectuals and religious leaders, Kurdish TV and radio emissions ...

*(kurdistan-news.net, pukmedia.com, 14.05.2010)*

#### **KURDISH FILM PROJECTED IN FRANCE**

*The 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2010*, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs Bernard Kouchner saw the film produced by Iranian film film-maker Behmen Qobadi, « No one knows about Persian cats », projected in the film theatre at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. 500 persons of cultural, political and press media attended the projection.

In his speech, Mr. Kouchner qualified Behmen Qobadi as a talented, modern and tireless film-maker.

*(avestakurd.net, pukmedia.com, nefel.com, azady.nl, 18.05.2010)*

#### **AWARD FOR A BUSINESS WOMAN IN THE NETHERLANDS**

*The 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2010*, a Kurdish 29 year old young woman, Ölçay Gülşen, owner of the fashion mark Supertrash, has been awarded the Amsterdam Business

Award and an amount of 25.000 € during a gala dinner at the Krasnapolsky Hotel in Amsterdam in the presence of 350 guests.

The Amsterdam Business Award is a new business award, attributed for following qualifications: innovation, long term, projection in the future and profit.

*(azady.nl, 20.05.2010)*

#### **VESTIGES IN KURDISTAN OF TURKEY**

Mosaics dating from the Roman time have been discovered during excavations in Maraş. They are supposed to have belonged to the antique city of Germanicia. According to the Turkish newspaper Radikal, the value of them is not less than the ones of the ancient city of Zeugma discovered in Anteb, also in Kurdistan of Turkey.

According to archaeologists, these mosaics date from the 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> century after J.C. and Germanicia was the name of the Roman founder Caligula, name given to this town. It was destroyed by earthquakes and floods.

*(rizgari.org, 24.05.2010)*

#### **MEETING AT THE SWEDISH MINISTRY OF INTEGRATION**

*The 24<sup>th</sup> of May 2010*, the Swedish Ministry of Integration and Equality organized a meeting with the civil society associations charged with integration. The chairwoman of the Federation of Associations of Kurdistan in Sweden (FKKS), Şermîn Bozarslan, attended the meeting.

This meeting has been the end of a series of meetings and conferences treating problems such as housing, health, work, education, language.... and the role of the associations in the field of integration.

*(fkks.se, avestakurd.net, 26.05.2010)*

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