

LORD CARLILE OF BERRIEW C.B.E., Q.C.



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Hon. Dr. Haider Al Abadi
Prime Minister of Iraq

April 3, 2015

Dear Prime Minister,

We write to express our gravest concerns regarding the continued detention of Mr Safar Zakery, a Camp Liberty resident arrested following a car accident.

The facts of this case establish clearly that Mr Zakery, who at the time of accident was accompanied by an Iraqi police officer, could not be regarded as the guilty party to the car accident, thus his continued detention is both unjust and unwarranted. In contrast, the Iraqi Humvee driver, plainly responsible for the accident, has not been penalised in any way.

Further, we have received alarming information about this case revealing that baseless charges are being made against Mr Zakery. This information indicates possible involvement of the Iranian regime's Embassy in Baghdad in his case.

The continued detention of Mr Zakery, who is aged 60, will cause him to miss important surgery scheduled for 5 April 2015 in a hospital outside the Camp Liberty.

We would like to highlight the legal status of Mr Zakery as being Protected Person under the Fourth Geneva Convention as well as an official statement by the High Commissioner for Refugees to the court in Karkh on March 23, 2015, which states that "the Iranian national Mr Safar Zakery is a Person of Concern to UNHCR".

We would like to emphasise that, under international law and conventions, it is illegal to jeopardise the life, safety and well-being of Protected Persons under the Fourth Geneva Convention. It is also illegal to involve representatives of a dictatorial regime in any case that concerns a refugee who has fled that regime's persecution. Mr Zakery's continuous detention is a clear breach of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government of Iraq and the United Nations on 25 December 2011.

We are dismayed by these types of actions by some Iraqi authorities against defenceless refugees in Camp Liberty. Our especial concern is as to the involvement of Iran in Iraqi affairs.

As we have said repeatedly before, we fear that this unacceptable situation will continue and that more innocent lives will be lost if those in the Iraqi government currently in charge of the Camp Liberty dossier are not replaced.

We take this opportunity to call on you to take urgent measures to secure the immediate release of Mr Safar Zakery. We once again reiterate the importance of full respect of the UK Parliamentary motion,

HRT/03/003

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EOSG/CENTRAL

EDM 343 *Iraq and Camp Liberty*, supported by over 110 MPs in British House of Commons (full text enclosed), which urges the government of Iraq to lift the current siege on the camp, recognising this camp as a UN refugee camp; and to guarantee the safety, security and the rights of its residents, as the first step to secure a peaceful solution to this humanitarian crisis.

We look forward to your response on this urgent matter.

Yours sincerely,



The Lord Carlile of Berriew QC CBE



Sir David Amess MP

Co-Chairs of British Parliamentary Committee for Iran Freedom

CC:

The United Nations Secretary-General, H.E. Ban Ki-moon;

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Honourable António Guterres;

The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Honourable Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein;

The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Iraq (SRSG), Mr. Ján Kubiš

Other prominent members of the Committee are as follow:

Rt Hon. Lord Waddington GCVO DL QC PC, *Former Home Secretary and Leader of the House of Lords*

Rt Hon. Baroness Boothroyd OM, *Former Speaker of the House of Commons*

Rt Hon. David Jones MP, *former Welsh Secretary*

Lord Clarke of Hampstead CBE

Baroness Gibson of Market Rasen OBE, *Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords*

Baroness Harris of Richmond, *Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords*

Rt Hon. Lord Dholakia PC OBE DL, *Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrat Party*

Rt Rev. Lord Harries of Pentregarth FKC DD FRSL, *former Bishop of Oxford*

Mr Brian Binley MP, *President of International Parliamentary Campaign in Defence of Camps Ashraf and Liberty*

Lord Maginnis of Drumglass

Lord Alton of Liverpool

Rt Hon. Lord Eden of Winton PC

Mr Austin Mitchell MP

Baroness Turner of Camden

Baroness Masham of Ilton DL

Lord Rea

Lord Roberts of Llandudno

Mr Martin Caton MP

Dr Matthew Offord MP

Mr Mark Williams MP

Lord Inglewood DL

Lord Turnberg

Sir Roger Gale MP

Baroness Blood

Mr John Leech MP

Lord Joffe CBE

Lord Cotter

Sir Bob Russell MP

Mr Mike Freer MP

Mr Joe Benton MP

Mr Steve McCabe MP

Sir Alan Meale MP



Early day motion 343

IRAQ AND CAMP LIBERTY

Session: 2014-15

Date tabled: 12.09.2014

Primary sponsor: Amess, David

Sponsors: Mulholland, Greg | Hancock, Mike | Shannon, Jim | Meale, Alan | Blackman, Bob

Total number of signatures: 113

Aldous, Peter | Amess, David | Barron, Kevin | Benton, Joe | Binley, Brian | Blackman, Bob | Bone, Peter | Bottomley, Peter | Bruce, Fiona | Bruce, Malcolm | Burstow, Paul | Campbell, Gregory | Campbell, Ronnie | Carmichael, Neil | Cash, William | Caton, Martin | Connarty, Michael | Crausby, David | Crockart, Mike | Cryer, John | Cunningham, Alex | Davies, Philip | Donaldson, Jeffrey | Doran, Frank | Dorrell, Stephen | Dowd, Jim | Durkan, Mark | Esterson, Bill | Evans, Jonathan | Evans, Nigel | Farron, Tim | Field, Frank | Fitzpatrick, Jim | Ffello, Robert | George, Andrew | Gilmore, Sheila | Glass, Pat | Glendon, Mary | Godsiff, Roger | Hancock, Mike | Harvey, Nick | Henderson, Gordon | Hepburn, Stephen | Hermon, Lady | Heyes, David | Hoey, Kate | Hood, Jim | Hopkins, Kelvin | Huppert, Julian | Jones, David | Knight, Greg | Lammy, David | Lavery, Ian | Leech, John | Leigh, Edward | Lewis, Julian | Lloyd, Stephen | Llwyd, Elfyn | Long, Naomi | Love, Andrew | Mahmood, Khalid | Marsden, Gordon | McCrea, Dr William | McDonagh, Siobhain | McDonnell, Alasdair | McDonnell, John | McGovern, Jim | Meacher, Michael | Meale, Alan | Mearns, Ian | Mitchell, Austin | Morrice, Graeme | Morris, Grahame M | Mowat, David | Mudie, George | Mulholland, Greg | O'Donnell, Fiona | Paisley, Ian Jnr | Parish, Neil | Pearce, Teresa | Pugh, John | Reed, Jamie | Rosindell, Andrew | Rotheram, Steve | Roy, Lindsay | Russell, Bob | Sanders, Adrian | Shannon, Jim | Sharma, Virendra | Sheridan, Jim | Simpson, David | Smith, Robert | Stringer, Graham | Sutcliffe, Gerry | Syms, Robert | Tami, Mark | Thurso, John | Vaz, Valerie | Vickers, Martin | Walley, Joan | Ward, David | Watson, Tom | Watts, Dave | Weir, Mike | Whittaker, Craig | Willetts, David | Williams, Hywel | Williams, Mark | Williams, Roger | Williamson, Chris | Wilson, Sammy | Wright, Simon | Yeo, Tim

That this House believes that Iran's theocratic regime is the source of the spread of terrorism and barbaric extremism in Iraq and region; concurs with the President-elect of the Iranian Resistance Maryam Rajavi's advice that the UK should urge the ending of the Iranian theocratic regime meddling in the affairs of Iraq, Syria and other countries in the region, the formation of a democratic, inclusive, secular government in Iraq and the organisation of free and fair elections under the auspices of international organisations; further believes that the rejection of Iran's intervention by the new Iraqi government is vital for the promotion of democracy in that country and that a good indication of this is the way it treats Ashraf residents now at Camp Liberty near Baghdad; and urges the government of Iraq to lift the current inhumane siege on the camp, recognising this camp as a UN refugee camp and guarantee the safety, security and the rights of its residents.



To:
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: BPCIF letter for urgent attention of UN Secretary-General

----- Forwarded by Jill Annitto/NY/UNO on 06/04/2015 09:04 AM -----

From: Moe Hanif <secretary@iran-freedom.org>
To: SGCentral <sgcentral@un.org>, sg@un.org, Ban Ki-Moon <kimis@un.org>, gallagher@un.org,
Date: 04/04/2015 09:47 AM
Subject: BPCIF letter for urgent attention of UN Secretary-General

Dear Sirs,

Please bring the attached letter and document by the British Parliamentary Committee for Iran Freedom (BPCIF) sent to the Iraqi Prime Minister, Honourable Dr. Haider Al Abadi, to the urgent attention of the United Nations Secretary-General, H.E. Ban Ki-moon.

Please acknowledge receipt with reply email.

Sincerely,
Moe

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Moe Hanif
Assistant, British Parliamentary Committee for Iran Freedom
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E-mail: secretary@iran-freedom.org



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