

Kurdish journalist to win the Reporters Sans Frontiers prize



100 Kurds arrested in clashes with security forces in northeast Syria are among political prisoners.

Massoud Hamid, a Kurdish journalist, now in a Syrian custody, wins the prize of Reporters Sans Frontiers in France, PUK media reports Friday.

The prize of Reporters Sans Frontiers was given in absentia to the imprisoned Kurdish journalist in a special ceremony attended by the director of the French plus TV in

Bakra Hall in Paris December 7th.

The prize was presented by a Cuban journalist to the Kurdish journalist; Maha Hussein on behalf of Massoud Hamid who

has been in prison since July 24/ 2003, when he was at the second stage of journalism at university of Damascus. He published photos of demonstrators in front of UNICEF in Damascus in an internet website. Maha Hussein delivered a speech and confirmed the importance of the prize for the imprisoned journalist, his family and the Kurdish nation.

She discussed that the rights of Kurds in Syria are violated and Syrian authorities claim the Kurds as Syrian Arabs.

"Syrian government recognizes us as Arabs," she said. She also pointed out that there is no democracy in Syria.

The Kurdish woman journalist asked the attendants to visit Massoud Hamid who suffers a bad health conditions in prison.

The Globe

Barwari rejects KIU claims



"We do not deny the existence of shortcomings," KDP senior official Barwari says

Azad Barwari, politburo member of Masoud Barzani's KDP and the head of Duhok Governorate Electoral Commission for the Kurdistan Coalition List, in a seminar, explained the agenda of the Kurdistan Coalition List for the upcoming Iraqi election last week. He commented over the secession of the Kurdistan Islamic Union from the Kurdistan list and said:

We wished Kurdistan Islamic Union to remain within the Kurdistan list, but they separated because their demand, having 6 seats in the next Iraqi National Assembly, was not possible to be met. Later on the reason was found out to

be another thing.

In another part of his seminar, the KDP official made clear that it is the right of KIU to have a separate list and to have campaign for its list, but he rejected allegations that there is corruption in Kurdistan.

"We do not deny the existence of shortcomings," He said.

"According to the Iraqi constitution, interference in the affairs of Kurdistan is not allowed, we would like to ask KIU why they did not react against 'corruptions' in those KRG institutes where KIU itself is part?"

The Globe

Woman poet statue set up in Irbil

In the 200th birth day of Mastura Aradalan who was a famous Kurdish woman poet and historian, a festival was held in the Kurdish capital, Irbil. The KRG Prime Minister, Nechirvan Barzani uncovered the statue made for her in Sami Abdul-Rahman Park in Irbil Thursday December 8th.

"This is the first festival ever held for Kurdish intellectual woman in the history of Kurdish nation and is the first statue set-up for a Kurdish woman inventor," said Mehabad Qaradaghi, Kurdish author and poet on behalf of the festival committee. Nechirvan Barzani also delivered his word for this occasion and praised the important role of this Kurdish woman in the Kurdish national history.

"Kurdish poets, artists



KRG Primer unveiling the statute of the Kurdish Poet Mastura Aradalan in the Capital December 8, 2005. XEBAT

and intellectuals are immortalized with holding annual festivals and anniversary celebrations for them in different cities of Kurdistan," said Barzani.

He also said that this tradition is for appreciating the ideal resistant efforts of the previous generations who helped the persistence of the Kurdish culture.

"If Kurd is alive, it is due to its living language and culture in the first degree," he stated. Then he praised Mastura as a woman writing along with the intellectual men at that time, two centuries ago. Pointing at her prominent writings, he said that this could be an important ideal for the current generation.

The prime minister appreciated the personnel in charge of the festival and especially the maker of the statue. Hadi Ziyadiniya from Sinna city in Iranian Kurdistan has made the statue and it was transported to Irbil. The festival lasted for four days in Khanzad hotel in Irbil. Seminars and conferences were presented and some women were awarded prizes during these days.

The Globe

Money counterfeiting band captured in Kirkuk

Members of a band counterfeiting Iraq and other foreign currencies and identities were arrested by Kirkuk Police Forces Monday, December 5.

Brigadier Sarhad Qadir from Kirkuk Police announced that the accused members were captured after intelligence information about them was received by the Police. The band has admitted to its crimes, and the Police were also successful in finding the counterfeited Iraqi Dinars, as well as other foreign currencies. The official also claimed that the forgers have been turned in for trial, for their crimes.

All peoples of Kirkuk should hold a share in running the city

In a gathering held in Salahadin, north of Arbil, Kurdistan President Massoud Barzani, met with the residents of Kirkuk City to discuss current situations in the city and shed light on the historical brotherhood among all its citizens who have greatly suffered during the Ba'ath regime, PUK Media reports.

At the meeting, Kirkuk City

governor also showed his appreciation to the value of such brotherhood that has long existed in the city, and expressed his happiness for their meeting with the Kurdistan president.

Mr Barzani discussed in detail the implementation of Article 58 of the Transitional Administrative Law to return Kirkuk on to Kurdistan Region. He referred

to Kirkuk as an inseparable part of Kurdistan, stating that this is not for its oil and wealth, but for its people as they are part of the Kurdistan nation. He said that he wished Kirkuk did not have oil, because it is the oil that has been the source of the suffering and unjust treatment of its people.

Mr Barzani also repeated that

Kirkuk should be run by all segments of its people and emphasized the importance of all of its peoples contributing in reconstructing the city. He added that Kurds have endured so much pain and oppression, persecuting others is something they will never think about it.

Describing the upcoming elections, Mr President said that it

is a critical one, particularly for the Kurdish people. He stated that everyone plays an effective role and all should participate, assuring the people of Kirkuk that the Kurdistan Liberation Movement fully supports them and various projects are to be implemented in the city to facilitate its citizen at large.

The Globe