

Civilians Paying the Price of Political Disputes

Some human rights activists affirm death of as many as 95000 Alawi in Syria during past two years. Alawis belong to the Shia sec of Islam. Because the Syrian government is also known to be Alawi, all Alawis are under pressure from oppositions in this country.

Foreign terrorist groups, mainly from Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Libya, Lebanon and Chechen, target and murder anyone they can identify as Shia Muslim or Alawi. Many of those killed are civilians who do not have any political ties with the government or any other group.

It is against International Bill of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law to target civilians. The Syrian government might be Alawi but that does not give permission to opposition groups to target all Alawis and kill them.

Killing as many as 95000 Alawi is certainly a war crime. The fight for democracy and freedom should not involve murdering civilians or targeting specific religious group.

SRW condemns the violent in Syria and urges all groups to respect humanitarian laws and do not engage in any human right violations or war crime.

We wish Syrians find peace soon and rebuild their country with democracy and tolerance.

Media and the Value of Human Lives

These past couple days have been very unpleasant for many citizens of the world. However if we ask people to highlight the most important headlines of the week everyone would say "Oklahoma tornado". The damage that tornado caused is in fact heartbreaking, but is this the only and most important headline? What about series of bombings in Iraq? Do people even know that in the same day the tornado killed 51, about 90 people were killed in seven different bombings in Iraq?

Probably not. And it is not their fault. It is media outlet's fault. They are supposed to keep people updated about facts and stories of the world, however they prefer to be selective and tell us what they think is important, not what we should know.

Our question is, do humans live have different values based on their citizenship? If yes, then it is a clear discrimination toward certain groups of people.

If not, then why loss of lives of people in third world countries is not worth sharing by media?

One of the human rights fundamental is equality, on May 20, 2013, many people lost their lives in Oklahoma tornado and their stories made headlines so other people would show their sympathy toward the victims.

Lives of all humans are valuable. If Mother Nature takes lives away there is not much humans can do. However, when lives are taken away by some extremists there is much that can and should be done.

SRW condemn the selective attitude of the media. At SRW we believe media must practice the code of ethics. They also must know human lives are valuable regardless of their citizenship, after all we are all citizen on one world.

By: Hawraa, A Shia Rights Activist and Specialist _ May 21st, 2013

دیدبان حقوق شیعیان: سکوت مجامع بین المللی در قبال فجایع بحرین، غیر قابل توجیه است

دیدبان حقوق شیعیان جهان طی بیانیه ای از سکوت شک برانگیز جامعه ی جهانی در برابر جنایات و حق کشی هایی که همه روزه به وسیله ی نیروهای سرکوبگر وابسته به رژیم حاکم بحرین در این کشور رخ می دهد ابراز نارضایتی کرد.

در چند هفته ی گذشته اقدام های سرکوبگرانه بر ضد شهروندان بحرینی روند صعودی گرفته، فراتر این که رژیم حاکم با یاری گرفتن از افراد مسلح و میلیشای غیر نظامی، بدون محدودیت و بی توجه به نمادها و مقدسات ملت بحرین دست به اقدام های تجاوزگرانه به حقوق شهروندان از تمام لایه های اجتماعی زده است.

در این بیانیه آمده است: سازمان دیدبان حقوق شیعیان در چند روز گذشته ده ها جنایت و تجاوز به حقوق و حریم شهروندان بحرینی در مناطق شیعه نشین

را به طور مستند ثبت کرده است. شایان توجه است که این اقدام ها در چارچوب برنامه ای دولتی و به منظور مجازات جمعی شیعیان صورت می گیرد، چراکه رژیم حاکم نتوانسته است برنامه ای برای اصلاح اوضاع و گفتگو و مذاکره با اقلیت شهروندان تدارک ببیند. متأسفانه همزمان با این اقدام های رژیم، جامعه ی جهانی چشم و گوش خود را بر حوادثی که در این کشور رخ می دهد بسته است؛ رفتاری که شک برانگیز بوده، رژیم حاکم را به ادامه ی رفتار ضد حقوق بشری اش تشویق می کند، مانند بازداشت گروهی افراد و حتی کودکان بی گناه، رفتارهای وحشیانه، شکنجه ی بدنی و روانی، تجاوز و تخریب دارایی شهروندان. لذا این سازمان، مسئولیت آنچه که در بحرین و نسبت به شهروندان بی دفاع رواداشته می شود، متوجه جامعه ی جهانی دانسته، از سازمان ملل، شورای امنیت و کشورهای دمکراتیک منطقه می خواهد بدون از دست دادن وقت دست به کار شده، از بدتر شدن اوضاع در بحرین، به ویژه بعد از بالا گرفتن نگران کننده ی اوضاع انسانی در این کشور، جلوگیری کنند.

شیعة رایتس ووتش تدعو النظام القطري الى وقف استهداف المسلمين الشيعة

تدين منظمة شيعة رايتس ووتش الانتهاكات المتصاعدة من قبل الحكومة القطرية ازاء المواطنين الشيعة داخل الامارة وما نجم عن ذلك من تجاوزات غير مبررة ومرفوضة على الصعيد الانساني والقانوني.

فلوقت ليس بقصير رصدت الكثير من الانتهاكات المعنوية والمادية بحق المواطنين القطريين الشيعة والوافدين اليها من تلك الطائفة، الامر الذي يثير الكثير من التساؤلات حول اسباب وطبيعة بعض الاجراءات التعسفية، والاهداف التي تقف ورائها، خصوصا ان الشيعة في قطر جزء من النسيج الاجتماعي العريق في تلك الدولة.

ومن جملة تلك الانتهاكات اقدمت عليها الحكومة القطرية هدم المساجد الشيعة والحسينيات وآخرها مسجد الصفار ومسجد وحسينية الإمام الحسن (ع) التاريخي بالدوحة دون إعطاء تراخيص ببناء جديدة، ومنع استخدام خطباء للحسينيات الموجودة الى جانب التضيق على علماء الشيعة القطريين.

فضلا عن ذلك قامت قطر بإغلاق المركز التثقيفي الشيعي وسحب ترخيصه، بالإضافة الى انتهاكها لحرمة مقابر المسلمين الشيعة وهدمها قبل بضعة اشهر، الى جانب بعض الانتهاكات التي سيتم عرضها في التقرير الشهري للمنظمة.

لذا تحذر منظمة شيعة رايتس ووتش السلطات القطرية من مغبة التمادي في تلك الممارسات العنصرية التي تنتهك حقوق الانسان والمواطن وجميع الاعراف في الدولة، وتدعوها المنظمة الى مراجعة تلك السياسات الطائفية، كونها ستعكس جملة وتفصيلا على المجتمع القطري المتآخ.

Assassination in Iraq



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Targeted Shia killing trend reaches Iraq. Another Shia Muslim cleric was killed in Iraq. A well-known Shia Cleric, Asaad Nasser, was assassinated in Abe al-Kaseeb area south of Basra. This is a second time an influential leader is being killed after assassination of Ali Hussein Ali on May 13.

Nasser was on his way to the mosque for dawn prayers in the Auasan mosque when he was shot and killed by an unknown man.

No terrorist groups have claimed the assassination yet.

Targeted Shia killings started in Pakistan and are spreading to other countries as anti-Shi'ism grows in Middle East.

SRW condemns the assassination and asks all opposition groups to stop Shia rights violations and practice their rights without violating the basic human rights of others.

More 86 Shia Muslim killed and more that 200 wounded



Series of car bombings in Iraq killed more than 86 Shia Muslim and wounded more than 200 Shia across Iraq on Monday May 20, 2013.

According to the Iraqi authorities the number of Shia Muslims killed in the month of May increased to 200 Shia. Until now no one claimed responsibility for the bombing. Unfortunately Iraqi government until now could not secure the country and stop the violence toward innocent people especially in the cities with high number of pilgrims such and Kathimiya.

According to the witnesses people were targeted in the crowd area like restaurant, car parking and bazaar. "Around 9 people were in restaurant when I heard the explosion in fort of the store" one witness said to SRW reporter in Basra.

"Nothing has changed before we were getting arrested and abused by Saddam regime and now we are getting killed by the same people and same mentality" elder women said while she was crying for a loss of her son.

Shia Rights Watch condemn the targeting the Shia and urge the Iraqi Government to identify the terrorist who taking the life of the Shia Muslims in the country.

شيعة رايتس ووتش: الصمت الدولي شريك في

اجرام النظام البحريني

تعرب منظمة شيعة رايتس ووتش عن استيائها الشديد من صمت المجتمع الدولي المريب ازاء الانتهاكات والفضائح التي ترتكب يوميا في دولة بحرين بواسطة الاجهزة القمعية التابعة للسلطة، مما دفع النظام للتمادي في ارتكاب تلك الجرائم دون تردد او مراجعة.

فما جرى في البحرين خلال الاسابيع القليلة الماضية، شكل انعطافا كبيرا في التصعيد الرسمي للاجراءات التعسفية والقمعية ازاء المواطنين دون تمييز، فضلا عن قيام النظام الحاكم بالاستعانة بميليشيات غير نظامية تقوم باعمال عدوانية في سابقة خطيرة، لم تستثنى الرموز والمقدسات للشعب البحريني.

اذ وثقت المنظمة خلال الفترة القصيرة المنصرمة، العشرات من الجرائم والاعتداءات التي طالت المواطنين في الاحياء الشيعة، في حزمة اجراءات حكومية تهدف الى فرض عقوبات جماعية بحق الشيعة دون استثناء، بعد عجز النظام عن ايجاد وسيلة للإصلاح والحوار مع مطالب اغلبية الشعب.

في الوقت ذاته يصم المجتمع الدولي آذنيه عما يجري في البحرين، بشكل يثير الريبة والاشمئزاز، ويدفع النظام الى التمادي في تلك الممارسات المنتهكة لأبسط معايير حقوق الانسان، من اعتقالات جماعية شملت الاطفال الابرياء، فضلا عن اعمال وحشية و تعذيب بدني ونفسي وحالات الاغتصاب الى جانب تدمير الممتلكات الخاصة بالمدينين.

لذا تحمل المنظمة المجتمع الدولي مسؤولية ما يجري بحق الشعب الاعزل في البحرين، وتدعو منظمة الامم المتحدة ومجلس الامن الدولي وجميع الحكومات الديمقراطية في المنطقة الى التحرك العاجل للحد من تدهور الاوضاع في البحرين، خصوصا بعد تفاقم الوضع الانساني بشكل يثير القلق.

Is Saudi Arabia Censoring History?



Anti-Shi'ism has different forms in Saudi Arabia. This government has destroyed Shia mosques, detained Shia Muslims, closed private schools and now is trying to prevent Shia from remembrance of significant religious events in their long history.

The most recent example of this, is the government covering part of the Ka'ba that is called Rukn Yamani. Shia believe that the right corner of the Ka'ba was

opened in a mysterious way more than 1400 years ago. The pregnant mother of the first Shia Muslims' Imam, Imam Ali, entered the Ka'ba and delivered her baby inside it. Imam Ali is the only baby who was born inside the Ka'ba. This mysterious opening of the house of Ka'ba is a very well-known miracle amongst all Muslims. Every year millions of Muslims, Shia and Sunni, visit this site and remember the miracle.

As the annual birthday of Imam Ali is approaching on May 24th, the Anti-Shia government of Saudi Arabia is showing its aim to censor any history related to the Shia Imams.

RW invites the Wahabbi government of Saudi Arabia to respect all humans and protect historical sites as they belong to all humanity.

Quran Classes Closed in Saudi Arabia



As discrimination against Shia Muslims grows in Saudi Arabia, authorities closed Quran classes. Number of kindergarten and schools were closed on May 17th in Shia populated area of eastern province of Qatif. The government of Saudi Arabia has gradually closed, demolished and destroyed Shia Muslim historical sites and educational settings. The authorities raided number of private schools in Qatif and detained school staff and questioned them for hours.

The schools were private Quran classes and authorities have no right to interfere with their mission. SRW believes this act of the authorities is against citizens' right to education and freedom of thoughts. Detentions of schools staff is also considered arbitrary arrest and is against the International Bill of Human Rights.

SRW urges the Saudi Arabia government to reopen the schools immediately and stop pressuring Shia Muslims. All citizens have the right to education and this act of the government is clear violations to many human rights articles.

Series of Attacks Across Iraq

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A series of bomb explosions in Iraq caused more deaths amongst Shia Muslims of the Baghdad.

One bomb went off near a crowded bus stop in Sadr City neighborhood, killing nine people, including children and wounded 16.

Another bomb aimed to target polices patrol missed the target and killed two civilians and wounded 10 in the capital's northern Chikok district.

The third bomb exploded in Baghdad's eastern suburb of Kamaliya killing three civilians and wounding 14 others.

Thursday night, shortly after sunset, a suicide bomber set off his explosive belt near a Shia mosque in the city of Kirkuk after being prevented by guards from entering. Four people were killed and 42 were wounded in the attack that was apparently targeting Shia Muslims inside the mosque.

Violent acts aimed to increase sectarian dispute is increasing in Iraq. SRW believes Iraqi government should investigate the bombings and make sure all groups, majority Shia Muslims and minority Sunni, live in peace. The government should ensure that terrorists do not find opportunities to turn sectarian violence into bloodshed.