

Turning Truth Into Action: The Urgent Need For Justice In The Barzani Genocide

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The history of the Kurdish people is one marred by tragedy, loss, and a relentless struggle for justice. Across Kurdistan, we have uncovered the horrific truths of genocide truths that are undeniable and overwhelming. From the mass graves that hold the remains of entire families to the chemical attacks that have scarred both the land and its people, the evidence is clear. Survivors have shared their testimonies of unimaginable suffering, and forensic scientists have matched DNA to give names back to some of those who were once lost to history. Historians and legal scholars have worked tirelessly to document the numerous genocides that have been inflicted upon the Kurdish nation.

Yet, despite this mountain of evidence, despite the irrefutable truth, justice remains incomplete. This raises a crucial question: why is it that truth alone is not enough? Why is it that, despite the clear documentation of these atrocities, the recognition and justice we deserve remain so elusive? This is the harsh reality the Kurdish people continue to face, and the need for action has never been more urgent.

The Challenge of Justice: Why Truth Alone Isn't Enough

It's one thing to uncover the evidence of atrocity. It's another to see justice served. We have seen mass graves uncovered, chemical attacks proven beyond a shadow of a doubt, and legal arguments laid out with meticulous precision. But despite all this, without political will, without international recognition, and without the collective voice of the

Kurdish people demanding action, these truths risk fading into silence.

Truth alone does not move the levers of justice.

The evidence of decades of genocides is clear, but without political will and commitment, the scars of history cannot be healed. And it is not enough for governments to acknowledge the genocides; it is necessary that they act. Justice is not simply about acknowledgment, it is about accountability, reparation, and the recognition that the crimes committed against the Kurdish people are crimes against humanity that must be addressed on the global stage.

The Missing Piece: Lobbying for Justice

This brings us to a concept often misunderstood: lobbying. Many people hear the word «lobbying» and immediately think of backroom deals, cynical politics, and corrupt influence. But I urge you to see it differently. In the context of genocide recognition, lobbying is not corruption it is courage.

Lobbying is the bridge between the lab and the courtroom. It's the gap between the grief of survivors and the halls of power. It is the means by which we turn historical evidence into political action. It is not simply about making noise; it's about organizing and demanding that the truth of our past be translated into policies that will protect our future.

Lessons from Recent Kurdish Experiences

We do not need to look far to find examples of how

lobbying can drive international recognition and change. One of the most poignant examples in recent years is the struggle of the Yazidi community. During the Yazidi genocide of 2014, it was not only the testimonies of survivors that moved the world, it was the tireless advocacy of Yazidi women who traveled to parliaments, the United Nations, and the European Parliament to demand action. Their voices were heard, and their lobbying efforts were integral to the international community's eventual recognition of the genocide.

Similarly, when we, Kurds sought international recognition for the Anfal genocide, it was not enough for mass graves to be opened and documented. The families of victims, Kurdish civil society, and diaspora communities had to organize, unite, and lobby governments. They had to make the world listen, to turn memory into policy, to demand accountability from those who were responsible.

The Path Forward: Uniting for the Recognition of All Kurdish Genocides

The road to justice for the Kurdish people is not only about acknowledging one atrocity—it is about recognizing the full scope of the pain, suffering, and destruction that has been inflicted upon us throughout our history. From the Fayli Genocide, to the Barzani Genocide, the Anfal Campaign, and the chemical attacks, to the destruction of thousands of Kurdish villages and even the ongoing genocide of Yazidis and the horrific atrocities still being committed by ISIS we continue to face each of these horrors and deserves recognition and accountability.

In recent history, the Yazidi Genocide and the genocide committed by ISIS against the Kurdish people have highlighted the continued vulnerability of our nation. These genocides are not an isolated events; they are part of a broader pattern of systemic violence, suppression, and ethnic cleansing. The Kurdish people have experienced generations of suffering, and it is crucial that the world acknowledges every chapter of our tragic history.

Why Recognition for All Genocides is Critical

The recognition of these genocides is not only an act of justice for the victims but an essential step toward unity. Our struggle for recognition is about more than individual atrocities—it is about solidifying the narrative of Kurdish resilience, survival, and dignity in the face of relentless persecution. Each genocide is a piece of our collective identity, and acknowledging them all is key to uniting our people, both within the Kurdish regions and in the global Kurdish diaspora.

For the Kurdish people to remain strong in the face of so many challenges, we must present a unified front. We must demand recognition not just for one event or another, but for all the genocides committed against us from the Barzani Genocide to the Anfal Campaign, from the destruction of villages to the horrific chemical attacks. We owe it to the victims of each of these atrocities and to future generations of Kurds to ensure that their suffering is not forgotten.

Lobbying for Global Recognition: Our Responsibility to Kurdistan

It is our responsibility to lobby for the recognition of every genocide committed against the Kurdish people. This is not just a matter of seeking justice for the past; it is a matter of securing a future where the Kurdish nation can rise above the cycles of violence and injustice. We must ensure that the world sees our pain and acknowledges our history, so that we can continue to fight for our rights and our land with strength and unity.

The recognition of these genocides, including the Yazidi Genocide and the horrors inflicted by ISIS, is not only a moral obligation; it is a critical part of our ongoing struggle for self-determination and security. The Kurdish people face many challenges today, from political instability to external threats. But the fight for recognition of our genocides is just as important as any other. It is our right, and we owe it to the memory of those who perished and to the future of Kurdistan.

Moving Forward Together

By lobbying for recognition of all the genocides committed against us, we are not only seeking justice for the past, but also building the foundation for a united and empowered Kurdish nation. The world must recognize what has been done to us, and through this recognition, we gain the political leverage to advocate for the rights of Kurds everywhere.

This is our fight. This is our responsibility. The road to justice may be long, but together, through collective action, we will ensure that the memory of our lost ones is honored, and that the Kurdish people can move forward, strong and united, in the face of adversity.

Let us turn the truth of our history into the power to demand action. Let us lobby, not just for acknowledgment, but for a world that stands in solidarity with Kurdistan so that we can rise together and ensure that the horrors of our past are never repeated.