“Nineveh plain: administration, security: A new norm”
In post ISIS period

A vision for a better future

A paper signed and submitted by the head of ten political parties representing
(Chaldean Syriac Assyrian Ethnicity)
Regarding their demands

Submitted to:
1- Three presidencies in Baghdad-Iraq.
2- Three presidencies in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region.
3- UNAMI Mission in Iraq.
4- The International Community.

It is of no secret that the situation of our Chaldean Syriac Assyrian (Christian) ethnicity in their Homeland has worsened since 2003 due to the weaknesses in Iraqi laws and
the lack of security at times, and the continued targeting and organized attacks and sufferings under the forcible displacement and most recently the occupation of the Islamic State terrorist organization “ISIS” since August of 2014 to our areas in Mosul and Nineveh Plain where disaster struck individuals, villages and towns which resulted in serious consequences threatening their continued existence in our historical ancestral homeland and taking into consideration that they are the indigenous component of the Iraqi people.

Your Excellency.

We make this appeal to your office jointly as Assyrian Syriac Chaldean political parties and organizations representing our ethnicity, and out of a sense of responsibility toward our people and all the dangers which they are facing and within the constitutional powers vested in your Excellency, we demand the implementation of the following requests which will enhance the confidence and restore hope for a better future under a democratic, pluralistic and federal Iraq that preserve the dignity of its peoples of all sects and components:

First
We demands the activation and implementation of Resolution no. (16) issued by the Iraqi Council of Ministers in its meeting numbered (3) dated on January 21, 2014 which passed a preliminary approval (approval in principle) of the establishment and creation of the Nineveh Plain province as well as the authorization of legislative and administrative procedures required to implement the resolution.

Second
Given the fact that democracy in Iraq is still in its early stage and witnessing occasional encroachments, obstacles and conflicts among the major political blocs at the expense of the smaller minorities of Iraqi people, accordingly we call on the UN security council to issue a resolution to protect the minorities (ethnicities) in Nineveh Plain and for the United Nations mission in Iraq (UNAMI) to have the right of overseeing, supervision and monitoring the security situations and rehabilitation
efforts, reducing exploitation and preventing the imposition of hegemonic policies across the Nineveh Plain through the creation of offices for this purpose in coordination with international observers to train and qualify the people of the region in order to handle the security file in the hands of its own people to protect Nineveh Plain.

Third
Under these circumstances and sufferings which has been continuous since 2003 until today and the fact that the region (Nineveh Plain) has witnessed political conflicts between Kurdistan Regional Government and the Central Government in Baghdad as well as the sectarian conflicts among the various components of the Iraqi people, disregarding the will of its people in shaping the future of the region. Therefore, we demand the keeping of Nineveh Plain away from political and military conflicts and classifying it as a green zone (politically and militarily neutralized) and giving its people every right to shape the future of their area away from the pressures. The people of the (Nineveh Plain) should be granted their constitutional right in administering their area, and to enable its people to defend themselves and protect their properties by the integration of all the militias and military groups that belong to those components within the Iraqi defense national mechanism.

Fourth
The Iraqi Government has to undertake its constitutional obligations and to speed up the reconstruction and rehabilitation of our towns in terms of the infrastructures and the destroyed houses in Nineveh Plain and to ensure the safe return of the residents and compensate them fair compensation in order to start a new dignified life protected by the Iraqi state. And to implement that through reliable and accredited groups which have the experience and efficiency in administering such affairs. As well as adopt the invitation and hosting for an international conference involving all reputable countries in order to secure the necessary financial support of the above.
Fifth
We recognize that what happened since 2003 and until today of murders, kidnapping and forced displacement of our people is a systematic targeting which seek to uproot our people from our homeland and especially what happened at the hands of the terrorist organization ISIS, since June of 2014. Therefore, everything that our Chaldean Syriac and Assyrian (Christian) people have been forced to endure, its imperative for the Iraqi State to assume its responsibility toward this matter in accordance with all ethical and legal standards and consequences and do not repudiate of this duty because it is considered a crime of genocide.

Sixth
Addressing the educational programs (curricula) and the unfair legislations to our Chaldean Syriac Assyrian people which reduces or demean its role as an original component and partner in the homeland and are also against the rest of the minority in Iraq, and that include amending the educational curricula and taking into account the historical facts and national and religious pluralism. And amending the laws that are of racial and religious discriminatory nature such as the national card Law in particular (Article 26 which imposes Islamization of minors), and the laws that restrict personal freedoms, and put an end to the policies of exclusion and marginalization in receiving special honors or positions in the state. As well as directing the state towards achieving civil peace and a sense of community and inspire the spirit of brotherhood, coexistence and unity among the components of the people through the enactment of legislation that renounce denigration of religions and criminalize prejudice against religions and sects.

Seventh
Block any behavior to impose a “fait accompli” on the minority areas away from the visions and aspirations of their future, and block any political plots or schemes designed to divide minority areas.
Regarding to the demands of our (Chaldean Syriac Assyrian) people in the Iraqi Kurdistan region, we as political parties and organizations, we summarize them as follow:

First
We demand the implementation of Article (3) in its fourth and fifth section of Law Number (5) legislated 2015 by the Kurdistan parliament which is concerned with protecting rights of minorities in Iraqi Kurdistan, and solve the problem of land abuses and encroachments that were inflicted on our people in the region as soon as possible by taking radical measures and solutions to solve them, especially that the problem has been introduced through official government channels and four presidencies officials in the region intervened to resolve it (Region’s Presidency, Head of Parliament, Prime Minister, and Public Prosecution), but until now we have not yet found any tangible solutions on the ground in solving this issue.

Second
We demand the inclusion and installation of Article (35) of the drafted Kurdistan regional constitution in the final version of constitution and guaranteeing the right of autonomy to our Chaldean Syriac Assyrian people in the areas of their presence.

Excellency..
As we present you with these demands, we are confident about your assiduousness to the unity of the Iraqi people and its constitution, and that you are the voice of all Iraqis especially the oppressed who suffered the hardship and who struggle for survival and remain in their homeland in order to live with dignity and freedom and as real partners in the homeland.

( Political Parties and Organizations )

1- Assyrian Democratic Movement.
2- Chaldean Democratic Forum.
3- Chaldean Syrian Assyrian Popular Council.
4- Chaldean National Congress.
5- Syrian Gathered Movement.
6- ChaldoAshur Organization.
7- Assyrian Patriotic Party.
8- Abnaa Al- Nahrain Political Entity.
9- Bet Nahrain Democratic Party.
10- Beth Nahrain Patriotic Union Party.

Signed on March 6, 2017