

We won't put up with this any longer !

Demonstration against the deprivation of rights of the Iraqi refugees in Bavaria

31st of march 2007

14.30 h: Rally Karlsplatz/Stachus

München/Munich

15.00 h: Demonstration to Marienplatz

Iraq is one of the unsafest countries of the world. However, deportations to Iraq are in preparation. Already granted asylum applications are being withdrawn – more and more Iraqies who live here for many years are being put back in a state of fear like in the status of “Duldung”. The treatment of the Iraqi refugees by the Bavarian authorities is a specific example of an aggressive hostility against refugees. For the first time a refugee group is exposed to increasing hardship only because of their citizenship. If we accept this without complaints, the doors are wide open for further deprivations of rights for all refugees.

The war in Iraq produced thousands of casualties. According to an estimate of the United Nations hundreds of thousands of people have died either as a consequences of the war or because of immediate violence. Most of the victims are civilians. This war, lasting now four years has led to a huge refugee movement. Around 1,8 million Iraqies, women and men, are fleeing within the Iraq. Around 2 million Iraqis have left Iraq and took refuge abroad. Of these people only very few reach Europe. All the other refugees are living under undescribably bad conditions in Syria, Iran or Jordania. And an end of the violence in the Iraq is not in sight. The infrastructure is destroyed, and corruption is rampant.

Iraqi refugees who have lived in Germany for many years are in permanent fear for their relatives. There is hardly anyone who hasn't suffered the loss of a relative. Weeks or even months pass at times without any sign of life of their relatives because even a phone call is luxury. Despite the hopeless situation in Iraq, Iraqi refugees in Germany and particularly in Bavaria, are being treated badly and put under pressure by the authorities – especially the “Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge” and the “Ausländerbehörde” (Immigration office). Already shortly after the invasion of the occupying troupes in Iraq the “Bundesamt” started to withdraw the already accepted applications of asylum. Most of the courts agreed on this practice without any objections.

The demonstration is organised by iraqi refugees.

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The Bavarian Ministry of Interior Affairs put all Iraqi people under collective suspicion of supporting terrorist movements. Therefore the Bavarian interior minister even requested that Iraqi people in general should be excluded from the “Bleiberechtsregelung” (regulations for the right to stay) at the interior minister conference. However, he did not succeed. Instead there exists an order given to the immigration authorities to refuse Iraqi citizens a residence permit, even if they live in Germany for a very long time. With this order it will be impossible for the Iraqi people to settle down permanently. At the same time it is impossible to apply for German citizenship in Bavaria. The consequence of this restrictive practice is that hundreds of Iraqis are leaving Bavaria and settle down in other states of Germany to start a new living.

The loss of the asylum status leads to a revocation or denial of prolongations of residence permits. As deportations to Iraq are not practiced so far, thousands are only in the possession of “Duldung”. Everyday the number of merely tolerated people is increasing. Especially absurd is the fact that the authorities regard the “voluntary” return to Iraq as acceptable. In June 2006 the constitutional High Court stated in a verdict that the reason of the deportation stop not humanitarian but because of the lack of air links and not yet signed agreements to repatriate refugees to Iraq. Because of this the road to a residence permit is barred.

- x **We demand the dismissal of all revocation cases made by the “Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge” !**
- x **We demand the immediate grant of residence permits to all Iraqi citizens and refugees from all other civil war countries !**
- x **We demand the revocation of all special arrangements of the Bavarian interior ministry concerning the Iraqi refugees !**