

Iraq: Stop the Massacre of Anbar Civilians

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Maliki's use of the army against the civilian population of Anbar constitutes the defeat of the policies Iraq has been following since 2003 and cements the divorce between the people of Iraq and the current sectarian government.

This new round of bombing has already produced 300,000 displaced, adding to the tragedy of the millions of Iraqi citizens already displaced by the failed and brutal US occupation.

While states are legally obliged to refrain from assisting other states to undertake internationally criminal acts, the United States is upping its supply of arms and military advisors to Iraq, along with intelligence cooperation. A new US "Surge" is in the making and will only bring more death and destruction.

Maliki's government cannot wantonly kill civilians and claim a "State of Law":

- Collective punishment is illegal under international law.
- Shelling water and electricity facilities, religious buildings, and hospitals are war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- The scale and target of the Maliki military strikes and shelling is utterly disproportionate and illegal and criminal in the face of the legitimate demands of the Anbar tribes.
- The lack of proportionality itself constitutes a war crime and crime against humanity.
- It is paramount for people everywhere to mobilise now to save Fallujah's and Anbar's civilians, understanding that their suffering mirrors the impact of the fascist sectarian regime that the US occupation created.

We appeal to all individuals of conscience, to all those who support human rights, to all progressives who believe in democracy and the right to self-determination, to the UN Security Council, to the president of the UN General Assembly, to members of the UN General Assembly, to the European Commission and member states, to the European Parliament and peoples, to Islamic and Arab states and people and their organisations, and to all human rights, anti-war and civil society organisations to:

1. Order the Iraqi government to stop its use of wanton shelling, air force attacks, and heavy artillery against the civilian population in keeping with the responsibility of states to protect civilians under the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention and its additional protocols.
2. Constitute an independent investigative committee to document the war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Anbar and submit its findings to the International Criminal Court.

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We call on all to join us, sign and spread this appeal. To endorse, email to: **hanaalbayaty@usgenocide.org**

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