



MOD-83-0000308-A

Statement given by the complainants Fatima Zaboun Dahash and Mahmoud Zaboun Dahash

Greeting and regards

I hereby present some of the details of the incident

- The Force that stormed the house claimed that a man came up to them at the gate of the camp and misinformed them by telling them a lie. They did not take down the identity of that person or his address and sufficed in (saying) that an unknown person came to them at the gate of the camp and that they hastened to storm the house as the informant took advantage of the weakness of the British Intelligence and that of the ease with which to convince them and of their (habit of) making little of the sanctity of people's homes and the very person of every Iraqi.
- We are aware at that same night a person had threatened us of revenging against us. We gave them his name and showed them his house to which they actually accompanied us. However, they did not arrest nor interrogated him. They did not take any measure whatsoever even though the incident led to the death of a person of stature. They did not retaliate for themselves after that criminal person fooled them.
- It is well known amongst us, we Muslims, that in the nights of Ramadan, families and individuals exchange visits. It happened that the deceased Muhammad Abderridha, my sister's husband was visiting us in one of those nights of Ramadan together with my nephew Ahmad Ibraheem Sanouh and we were sitting in the house yard eating fruit.
- I would like to give you an idea about the deceased Muhammad Abderridha. He was a very good personality, a teacher in one of the high vocational schools. He enjoyed the love and great appreciation of the people of Basra. The night he was killed, all the schools of the governorate, students and teachers alike led by the Director General of Education and the Governor of Basra took to the streets in huge demonstrations against the British Forces. He had such a solemn escort to his resting place that the British military took heed of in fright. They can (verify that by) contact the Director General of Education of Basra at the time to get a glimpse of the life of what the victim Muhammad Abderridha Salem was like and how his conduct was, how he was unsympathetic with the former regime in Iraq and how he was committed to his family and was so keen on raising his three children being their only source of sustenance. I attach the mobile number of the Director General of Education of Basra at the time who led the biggest demonstration against the British Forces for killing the victim Muhammad [REDACTED]

I also provide the telephone number of the person who witnessed the incident and witnessed all its moments. He is (Ahmad Ibrahim Sanouh) [REDACTED]. I could not meet with the witness [REDACTED] because I moved into a farther house because of the incident itself and when I looked for him in my old area where the incident took place, I learned that he had moved away due to the security situation.

- We are keen to file a complaint and demand compensation for the following reasons:

1. That a person whose father was a supporter of the former regime and is known for his opposition of the Coalition Forces at the time, that that person fooled the British Forces who stormed the house only after he had deluded and fooled them by giving them a false impression.
2. That the force that stormed the house failed to get the name and address of the lying

informant who, they claimed, came up to the camp gate regardless of the magnitude and the seriousness of the information given.

3. That the force did not follow the standard and commonly acknowledged way before they stormed the house by like surveillance or contacting the area leaders or cordoning the house and communicating with the residence instead of storming the house, breaking the outer iron door by a tank and breaking the inner wooden door with their feet to enter the house without being deterred by anything and without considering the sanctity of the house which belonged to a lawyer with 45 years of service in the profession.
 4. Making little of the lives of innocent people and firing unjustifiably to kill the victim Muhammad Abderridha Salem. Moreover, the force did not bother to provide first aid to the injured and to move him to their own or the nearest hospital appropriately, but rather left him on the stairs of the house bleeding before their merciless eyes.
 5. The British Forces soldier fired at the victim either because he was cowardly enough to fear an unarmed man or because he killed him in cold blood with sheer underestimation and belittling.

And since the force and the killer belong to the British government, the British government is therefore responsible for the conduct of those who belong to it.

With highest regards.

Signed signed

Complainant
Fatima Zaboun Dahash

Complainant
Mahmoud Zaboun Dahash

