



Elmer Abbo

August 3 at 5:54pm · 11 ▼

Who will Assyrians criticize more?

The KDP for removing within the last month two fairly elected Assyrian mayors of towns outside the KRG but which the KRG aims to annex under the guise of a free and fair referendum that they are insisting will include the future of the Nineveh Plain even though the Nineveh Plain is outside their jurisdiction and there has been a history of voter disenfranchisement of Assyrians by the KRG well-documented by independent third-parties, or...

Younadam Kanna for having a human moment and smiling in a meeting with Barzani in which he told Barzani the Nineveh Plain should not be part of the KRG's referendum and for not acting quickly enough to counter the fake news narrative put forth by Kurdish media that the ADM supports the Kurdish referendum?

The KDP is depriving Assyrians of their right to self-determination. Fact. Twice.

The KDP is betting on our silence and exploiting our own divisions. But our divisions should not blind Assyrians to realize our own dignity and self-respect.

Our freely elected leaders are being illegally removed by the KDP. Fact.

If you are Assyrian, including Chaldeans and Syriacs, you are kidding yourself if we could ever realize "autonomy" and self-determination for ourselves for our towns in the Nineveh Plain if it is annexed to the KRG.

The actions of the KDP speak louder than words. There will be no KDP respect for Assyrian self-determination in the future as there is none now. They will only allow those Assyrians in power who are their patrons.

If you are not condemning the KDP's actions, effectively speaking, you are giving them permission to act with impunity.

The Assyrian towns in the Nineveh Plain are our land. This is our last stand. The KDP is taking it away from us.

What do you say?





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August 3 at 11:51am · 🌐

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BREAKING—Assyrian Mayor of Tel Keppe Basim Bello has been removed from office by KDP-led Nineveh Provincial Council. He is the second Nineveh Plain mayor to be removed. #TakeBackTelKeppe

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👤👤👤 Albert Khamis, Daniel Luis Rivera-Morales II and 18 others

 Eshu Paul Why has Yonadem Kanna and ADM been so silent about what the KRG is doing in the Nineveh Plains especially in Alqush and Telkeppeh? We haven't we heard of 1 word or 1 action about this so far. Or is "silence" "unexposed work" part of his politics in th... See More
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↪  Eshu Paul replied · 4 Replies

 Elmer Abbo Eshu, so this just happened the day before yesterday. I am sure there will be protests, and I am sure the ADM will play a role in them just as they have played a role in the protests regarding Alqosh, with one citation of their involvement noted above.

I might also add that this happened on a day that the ADM was doing damage control because of the Kurdish fake news propoganda about the Barzani meeting. The timing of all this shouldn't go unnoticed.

But really? Is that your first instinct in this episode? To criticize the ADM for not protesting yet? Or is your first instinct to speak up as an Assyrian to deplore and condemn the undemocratic action of the KDP?

I don't get it.

Who else is carrying a message that Assyrians want the Nineveh Plain to be independent of the KRG?

What other political party, in an effort to make an Assyrian claim for self-administration and independent local security as shared with others in the Nineveh Plain viable, is supporting the NPU?



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What party spearheaded a joint Assyrian statement of demands that they took to both the Gol and the KRG, but only to have the effort muddied by a follow-up statement that reopened the door to Kurdish expansionist aspirations over the Nineveh Plain, but a statement that the ADM very publicly preemptively boycotted when the agenda not to follow the policy the ADM had spearheaded emerged.

And who met with Barzani to tell him directly that the ADM opposed the inclusion of the Nineveh Plain in the KRG referendum and that the Nineveh Plain should be left alone?

Is this silence?

The fact that you, and frankly many Assyrians, see all of this work ADM is doing to push forth the Assyrian cause, as silence is a reaction I have difficulty understanding.

The only explanation I can posit is based on emotion, and as such, I merely will pose it as a question:

Are there such negative feelings towards the ADM that you, and other Assyrians, cannot even acknowledge they are doing positive work for Assyrians even when they are doing that very work?

The only Assyrian political party with a stated policy agenda to keep the Nineveh Plain independent of the KRG and actively working and publicly challenging KRG expansionist efforts is the ADM.

Is it as "as best they can?" Yes. Could they be better? Yes.

But that's it. It's just them.

Now, of course, if you think Assyrian rights are best secured by the KRG, then it makes sense to deconstructively criticize the ADM.

But that goes to the whole point of the post. The KDP has just illegally removed two of our freely elected mayors. And it's so much more than that, because they did this in advance of a referendum in which they want to force including deciding the future of the Nineveh Plain, in a vote that will be run by them and their proxies, before we have even had a chance to move back and rebuild our lives.

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To think Assyrians will realize autonomy and self-administration in the KRG, in spite of this most recent evidence, can only be understood emotionally. It is a decision based on fear.

But decisions made out of fear are never good decisions. They will never sustain us in our homeland over generations when people can see freedom in the phones and leave when they tire of the fear, when our population there has already dwindled so much precisely because past generations left to escape the fear, and those who persecute us and threaten us with force use guns and bombs today rather than the fists and swords faced by our ancestors.

Of course, that outcome of Assyrian exodus is just as good, if not better, to our opponents. They get the land and resources but need not kill us over it.

And if we stay, we stay on their terms: "You can stay if you kiss our ring. If not, go. You are not welcome here." It really is just a modern and secularized form of jizya.

We have become so victimized that we quiver in front of power, and we choose protection even when our protector is our abuser. As a nation, we are so weak that we accept protectors that we fear, and perhaps most sadly, hate ourselves before we hate our abuser.

Let's not hate ourselves. Let's help ourselves to find our dignity and our power.

Let's find a way to walk away from the abuser who claims to protect us, but who only protects us to exploit us and control us.

Let's fight for our independence.

Now, as you note, our mission is daunting and I share your angst that the KRG is positioning themselves to successfully steal our lands under the guise of a referendum, but that is not the basis for criticism of the ADM. That should be the basis for their support. If there is be criticism, let it be constructive. Give advice on how to grow their support.

But, I acknowledge, the fact the support is not widely there now does suggest our weakness as a nation. We are afraid.

But, if we are to survive in our central homeland, we must get past that fear and fight.

So, really, right now, who do you criticize more? The ADM or the KDP?

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Waleeta Cn Of course they will criticize the ADM. Tearing each other down, over the last 20 years, is why we are here right now. These behaviors are not suddenly going to change by people who tear down but have absolutely no skills or ability to build.

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