

19 February 2016

Iraq- Baghdad

Subject: nomination of a 300 electoral officials

Dear evaluation committee

Having learned of the call for nomination for this year's IFES awards, I am writing today to endorse a highly suitable group of officials (300 officials including 50 women) who had served as electoral officials in Iraq/ Mousul with the Independent High Electoral Commission in Iraq. Those officials lost their lives last year (July-August 2015). They were all shot dead by ISIS for charges of engagement in the electoral process and were hence labeled as "apostates and infidels" By ISIS court. I believe that those officials contributed to democracy with the most precious thing that anybody could ever spare. They gave their lives for democracy; it is the highest price one could ever pay.

The nomination of those officials is an approach to fight ISIS ideology and let the people who chose to work in the election know that victory the souls of those brave officials triumph over evil. It is a powerful message to the world that people may lose their lives for the sake of democracy and the world should appreciate the efforts exerted by EMBs and notional and international organizations which support the electoral process in the world.

Their story of those brave officials will bring all electoral officials the strength to fight for free and fair elections in the world and vanquish the powers of evil.

Regards

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