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A Free Press - A Foundation of Democracy

One of the cornerstones of a democratic society is a free press that serves the public by encouraging the exchange of ideas and ensuring that public figures - politicians, business leaders, teachers, clerics, and other community leaders - are responsible and accountable to the people they serve. Only by carefully and objectively examining its successes and mistakes can a society continually improve itself. A free press is critical to such examination.

A free press imposes heavy burdens of responsibility on journalists. They must continually seek out, verify, and report the truth no matter how painful or uncomfortable it may be. Journalists cannot engage in or report rumors, conjecture, or speculation, and must clearly distinguish between opinion and fact. They can and should analyze the facts and draw conclusions based upon logical analysis, but must clearly identify any assumptions or bias in that process.

For a free press to thrive, independent media outlets, both print and broadcast, must exist, dedicated to finding and reporting the truth. This independence can be gained by having sources of funding that are not controlled or influenced by any single group, party, and individual and by having visionary publishers and editors for whom truth is the guiding beacon.

Naturally, in a free society, any organization may sponsor a media outlet. These information channels serve to inform the sponsor's members of the group's activities and views on various matters, and may attempt to convince others of their point of view. While they serve a useful purpose, readers, viewers, and listeners must understand that these information sources have a definite perspective. For example, a publication from an ultra-conservative political party is likely to support very conservative activities and viewpoints, and will give less attention to more liberal opinions. This dialogue has value as long as the public understands the perspective of the publisher and the sponsor.

We are encouraged by the breadth, depth, and dynamism of the media in Iraqi Kurdistan. A solid foundation has been laid here for a truly free press. Journalists should never feel, however, that they have achieved their ultimate objective of truly unbiased reporting of the truth. Continue to strive for that goal...and every day you will be a step closer to institutionalizing the democratic fundamental of a free press.

By LTC Harry J. Schute, Jr.

A Journey to A New Life

By CPT Brian Goldstein

While conducting routine village assessments, a US Army Civil Affairs Team visited the village of Kalati in the Bijeel sub district of Aqrah. During a meeting with the village leadership, the team was introduced to a 9-year-old child that was deaf and mute.

The child had never received any special education and was only able to communicate through obscure hand signals. Due to the high cost of special education, the child's family had been unable to enroll him in any programs. Another deaf mute child in the village was also unable to receive special care. All

the residents of the village are poor farmers.

While they were working on projects to improve the water distribution system and the health clinic in Kalati, the team inquired about educational opportunities for these two children. Working with the Director of Social Services in Dohuk, they soon arranged for the children to receive free education and boarding at the Dohuk School for the Deaf.

On the 15th of September, these two children enrolled in their new school and began a journey to open new opportunities and possibilities that they and their parents had only dreamed of before.



Using Their Skills to Serve Their Community

By CPT Andrew Manca

When the US Army needed uniforms for the Iraqi Facility Protection Security Force (FPSF), the Civil Affairs soldiers in Dohuk knew just who to turn to. "We had seen the fine work that these ladies could do, and this seemed like the perfect opportunity to help them bring in some income to support their families while at the same time providing us with the high quality uniforms we required for the FPSF," stated SGT Scott



Maioocchi, a member of the Civil Affairs team which first met with the Kurdistan Women's Union in early May.

In a patriarchal society such as Iraq's, women's rights are not a topic that often gets

much attention. The Kurdistan Women's Union tries to bring some focus on this contentious issue. Among the activities sponsored by the Union are seminars and training sessions on women's and children's health issues, counseling for women in abusive relationships, and income generation projects.

One of those income generation projects is the

Layla Kasem Sewing Center. Named for a Kurdish woman who was murdered by Saddam Hussein's regime, the Layla Kasem Sewing Center used to employ sixteen women. But the combination of a lack of funding and dilapidated sewing machines forced the Center to close its doors soon after the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The women who depended on the Center to help support their families were out of work.

In August of this year, the US Army in Dohuk created a jobs program for former Peshmerga fighters and established the Peshmerga Transition Office (PTO). One of the initiatives of the PTO is the Facility Protection Security Force. If former Peshmerga fighters were going to be used as a security force, they were going to need a clearly recognized uniform that would distinguish them from military and police units.

The American soldiers remembered their visits to the Kurdistan Women's Union and the Layla Kasem Sewing Center. After hearing the details of the project, the Women's Union eagerly embraced the opportunity to put some of the women back to work. With the help of the US Army, the Union was able to repair seventeen of their sewing machines and put nine women back to work.

Mariam Saeed, the head seamstress, remarked through a translator that the women were thrilled to be back at work and contributing to the US Army's efforts in northern Iraq.

In their first week back at work, the women were able to acquire the needed fabric from a supplier in Baghdad and put together more than sixty sets of uniforms. The uniforms are of high quality and other orders will likely follow soon.



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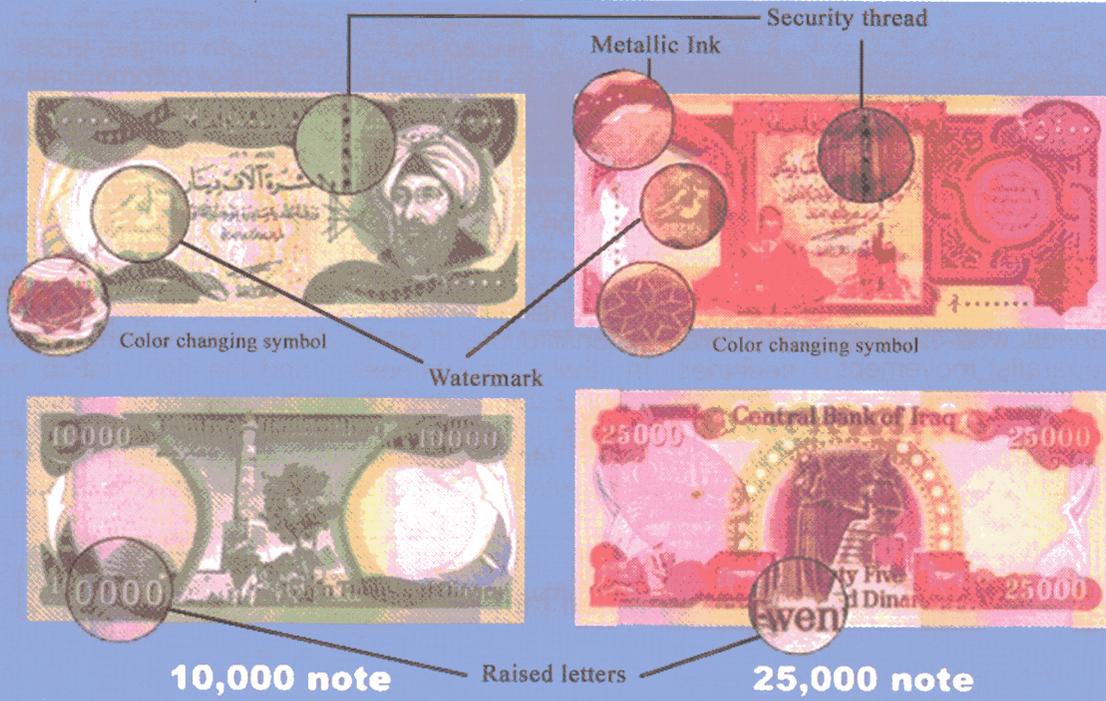
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Canada - A Dynamic Society

By Major James Bullion

In the last issue of the Sun, we discussed the United States Constitution. This issue will focus on the constitution of Canada, which evolved out of the British parliamentary system. It is especially interesting because it was modified in 1982 to accommodate changes in Canadian society, in particular the desire of the French-speaking population of the Province of Quebec (PQ) and the Native people of the North for recognition.

For years, Canada was strained by a strong separatist movement in Quebec which at times approached violence and which actually came close so succeeding. As for the Native populations, they have been

ignored and relegated to reservations where their customs and languages withered away.

Canada as an independent entity was born out of the 1867 British North America Act (BNA Act), an

act of the British parliament. Unlike the U.K., Canada was to be a federal state, so the BNA Act outlined the division of powers between the provincial governments and federal government.

Canada has a two-house legislature, a House of Commons, and a Senate (together called Parliament). Members of the House of Commons are elected in districts by population. Senators were appointed by the Governor General, the Queen's representative in Canada; they are now appointed by the Prime Minister. Laws passed by Parliament must be signed by the Governor-General, the Queen's representative, in order to become law, but, as in the UK where the Queen must sign, this is a mere formality. Federal responsibilities include central banking and monetary policy, defense, foreign relations, trade and criminal law. These areas were considered essential in order to create an economic

union. In contrast, the provinces are generally responsible for health, education, property and civil rights, administration of justice, social security and municipal institutions. The Federal government was also empowered by the Constitution to create a Supreme Court. The federal and provincial levels of government both enjoy the four primary means of state influence over society: legislation, regulation, taxation, and persuasion.

The Canadian constitution stands in contrast to constitutions of other countries in that the framers expressly built in a degree of flexibility for future interpretation. Over the years, federalism has swung between strong centralist

Every Canadian has the following fundamental freedoms: (a) freedom of conscience and religion; (b) freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication; (c) freedom of peaceful assembly; and (d) freedom of association. Every citizen of Canada has the right to vote in an election of members of the House of Commons or of a legislative assembly and to be qualified for membership therein. Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of the person and the right not to be deprived thereof except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice. Everyone has the right to be secure against unreasonable search or seizure.

Everyone has the right not to be arbitrarily detained or imprisoned. Any person charged with an offence has the right a) to be informed

All constitutions have common purposes to:

- * Establish the powers of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government;
- * Allocate powers to different levels of government, federal, provincial, and local;
- * Spell out the rights of citizens in relationship to each other and to the government, as in a charter or bill of rights
- * Outline how the constitution is to be amended

and even stronger decentralized interpretations.

In 1982, the Constitution was repatriated to Canada, and the BNA Act was supplemented and changed by the Canadian Constitution Act. This meant that Canada no longer had to apply to the British Parliament for approval of amendments.

The Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the centerpiece of the repatriated Constitution, specifically guarantees a series of rights, including the fundamental freedoms of conscience, religion, thought, and expression, and assembly and association. It also lists democratic rights such as the rights to vote and to hold regular elections, and the right to live anywhere in Canada. It enshrines equality before the law for all Canadians and confirms the status of English and French as the official languages of Canada.

without unreasonable delay of the specific offence; b) to be tried within a reasonable time; c) not to be compelled to be a witness in proceedings against that person in respect of the offence; d) to be presumed innocent until proven guilty according to law in a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal; e) not to be denied reasonable bail without just cause;

f) except in the case of an offence under military law tried before a military tribunal, to the benefit of trial by jury where the maximum punishment for the offence is imprisonment for five years or a more severe punishment; Everyone has the right not to be subjected to any cruel and unusual treatment or punishment.

In our next article, we will examine how the French-speaking minority and the native peoples have been accommodated in this dynamic Canadian constitution.

A Sporting Opportunity for Aqrah

By CPT Brian Goldstein

Sports, particularly soccer, are important to the many residents of the city and district Aqrah. The freedom to participate in sporting events, and for teams from across the Dohuk governate to compete with each other are important signs of the return to normalcy to this region.

Prior to and during the war, various U.S. military units used Freedom Park, a local picnic park in Aqrah, as their home. The Aqrah Sports Stadium adjacent to the compound was used by U.S. forces as well. The soccer field was used for training, rehearsals, and as a landing zone for helicopters. The two areas were sealed off from public use during this time.

As soon as possible after the war was over, the Civil Affairs team in Aqrah and the Mayor of Aqrah District Shaykh Jaffar Mustafa reopened the Sports Stadium. As soon as it reopened, many people began using it again. Soccer games were held regularly, children were playing there, and people were enjoying themselves. The stadium was in poor condition before the war, however, and had fallen into greater disrepair while



Grant signing at Aqrah Mayors Office.

(seated L to R : Mazin Mohammed Said-Baradarash Sub-District Mayor, Hawre Faraj-USAID/OTI Contractor, CPT Brian Goldstein)

being used by U.S forces due to lack of maintenance.

The Civil Affairs team proposed to renovate the stadium and to re-supply the athletic department. The U.S Agency for International Development (USAID) Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI), liked the idea and provided a grant to the Athletic Directorate of Aqrah. The grant includes complete repair of the stadium (lighting, fencing, soccer field, bleachers, etc), and

supplies for the various sports organizations that use the stadium (soccer teams, leagues, basketball teams, chess groups, etc). USAID/OTI has already procured the supplies and delivered them to the stadium, and has signed a contract with a local contractor to do the renovation work.

Soon Aqrah will have a stadium and sports center it can truly be proud of.

Opinion Polls

Results of Recent Opinion Polls conducted by Gallup and Zogby, the most respected survey firms in the world.:

Gallup surveyed 1,178 Baghdad residents in late August and early September, and Zogby polled 598 residents of Basra, Mosul, Kirkuk, and al-Ramadi. Here are their results:

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Was the ousting of Saddam Hussein worth the hardships you have suffered since the Coalition intervention?		62%	30%
Is the CPA doing a good job?		37%	13%
Is CPA doing a better job now than 2 months ago?		50%	14%
Will Iraq be better off in five years?	Baghdadis	67%	8%
	Others	69%	20%
How long should Coalition Forces stay in Iraq?	Leave within six months?	32%	
	Remain two or more years?	25%	
		<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
What is your opinion of the Iraqi Governing Council?	Baghdadis	61%	13%
What is your opinion of the United States?	Baghdadis	44%	29%
Should Iraq have an Islamic Regime or a government that allows Citizens to practice their own religion?		<u>Islamic</u>	<u>Other</u>
	Overall	33%	67%
	Sunnis	62%	38%
	Shi'as	27%	73%

Emergency Help from Kosovo

By CPT Andrew Manca

Dohuk would seem to be an odd place to run into two Kosovar Albanian doctors. But that's exactly what would happen if you walked into the Dohuk Emergency Hospital last week. Doctors Jeton Vorfi and Victor Prendi have come to Iraq at the request of a friend to work for the



Coalition Provisional Authority as emergency medical trainers. They come to Dohuk after teaching several classes in Baghdad and Mosul. Their time in Mosul was short but tumultuous, and the doctors couldn't have been happier to come to Dohuk. The night before they arrived in Dohuk, the hotel in which they were staying in Mosul was hit by a mortar attack. Their relief was evident as they entered a spacious apartment on the grounds of the Dohuk Emergency Hospital, where six former Peshmerga fighters provided them with added security.

Jeton and Victor's journey to Iraq began several years ago in their hometown in southwestern Kosovo near the Albanian border. The two doctors, who work together at the Emergency Hospital in Jackova, Kosovo, were selected for a residency program sponsored by Johns Hopkins University. As part of their residency, Jeton and Victor spent time in Pristina, Kosovo and Baltimore, Maryland. Through this program Jeton and Victor met an American doctor named Jon. Besides being a doctor, Jon also happened to be a Major in the United States Army. A few months ago Jeton and Victor received a request from Jon to come to Iraq to help educate Iraqi medical personnel on pre-hospital emergency medical care.

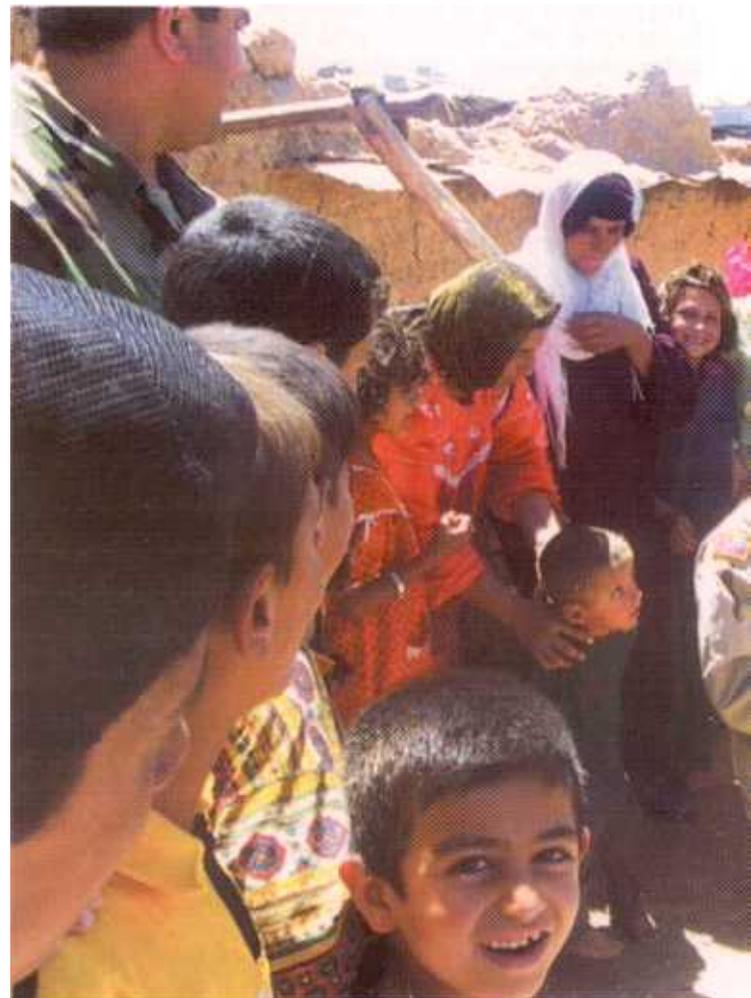
When Doctor Abdullah Saeed Abdullah, the Dohuk Director of Health, received the news that this course would be offered in Dohuk, he gratefully accepted. He quickly produced a list of fifty doctors and nurses

who were interested in attending the training. He also arranged to provide food and housing for Jeton and Victor for the duration of their stay in Dohuk.

The Kosovar Albanian doctors have been very happy in Dohuk.

Besides the obvious relief at being in a friendly city, they both stated that they have been very impressed by the medical personnel who are attending their class here. They remarked that the high quality of participation from those attending the class has made this a very satisfying experience. Doctor M.M. Rashid, a surgeon at the Azadi Hospital in Dohuk, pointed out that pre-hospital emergency medical training is greatly needed in Iraq and courses such as this one are vital to improving the healthcare for the Iraqi people. Jeton and Victor expressed an interest in returning to Dohuk in the near future to conduct a class on advanced trauma, and then

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سندی کرد. پاشان لیستیکی پەنجاکەسی لەو
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بوون بە بوونیان لە دەهۆک. سەرەپای ئەوێ کە زۆر
بەروونی خوشحالی بوون بەو دۆستایەتیە لەو
شارەدا بۆیان هاتە ئارا، هەردووکیان ئەوێشیان
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بەسەداری سونی دیارو بەرچاوی ئەوان لەو
کۆرسەدا، بوو مایە ئەوێ ئەزمونیکی
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لە ئەخۆشخانە ئازادی دەهۆک ئەوێ پاگەیاندا
کە خولی پزیشکی ئیمپیرجینسی پیش
ئەخۆشخانە، پیتوستیەکی گەزگە لە عێراق و
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عێراق. جیتۆن و ئیکتۆر باوەخی خۆیان
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شکەوتوو لە سەر (برین) و تەنانهت ئەگەری گەڕانەو
بۆ دەهۆک بۆ ئەنجام دانی کۆرسی ژباندنەو.



گهشتیک بۆ ژیا نیتیکی نوئی

نازادی راگه یاندن بنه های دیوکراسیه ته

یه کیتیک له بنه ما سه ره کیه کانی کۆمه لگایه کی دیوکراسی، نازادی راگه یاندن، که خزمه تی هاوولاتیان ده کات و هانیان ده دات بیرو راگه یاندن نالوگۆر بکه ن. نازادی راگه یاندن، ده بیته زامنی نه وه کی به رپرسان له چاری هاوولاتیاندا ئیدی سیاسییه کان بن یان به رپرسه نابوریه کان به رپرسیار بن له هه مبه ر تیکرای پیته ره په سندراره کاندان. ته نه ها به نه عجماندانی ره چاوکردنی لایه نی ئیجایی نیگه تیشی یه کانی کۆمه لگا ده تواترئ به رده وام خۆی چاک بکات. نازادی راگه یاندن، له هه مان کاتتدا به رپرسیار پیته یه کی گه و ره و قورسیش ده خاته نه ستوی رۆژنامه نووسان. رۆژنامه نووسان، پیوسته له سه ریان که به شۆپن راستیه کان بگه رپن و راپۆرت له سه ر راستیه کان دروست بکه ن. راپۆرت دروست کردن له سه ر راستیه کان، نه وه ده خاته روو که نوسه ره که ی چه ندین زانیاری ده ست که و توه وه به شۆپه یه کی باش به شۆپن راستی و دروستیاندا گه راوه. نابئ رۆژنامه نووسان باوه ر به (ووتی ووتی و دیعایه) یان گه رمانه کان بکات. ناوه نده کانی بلاوکردنه وه به ره هم هینان که بیترکی کراوه دروست که ریان هیه، ده بنه زامنی سه ربخۆبی. ده بی (راستی) رپئ رۆشن که ره وه ناراسته کاریان بیت. به شۆپه یه کی سه روشتی، ریکخراوه جۆراو جۆره کان پشتیوانی چاپ کردن یان بلاوکردنه وه په خشکردنی بلاوکراوهی رۆژنامه وانی ده که ن. نه م په خشنامانه ش، ده بنه مایه ی ناگادارکردنه وه ی نه ندانمانیان و لایه نگرانیان له چالاکیه کانی ریکخراوه که و نه و رووداو ویتشها تانه ی که له ده وریه ریاندا روودات. له کاتیکدا که نه م جۆره بلاوکراوه په خشنامانه رۆلیتیکی پر بایه خ ده بیئن، به لام خۆپنه ران و بینه ران ده بی له کاتی وه رگرتنی نه و زانیاریاندا نه و خالانه یان له به رچاو بیت که پیتر باسمان کردن. واته له کاتیکدا که و تارتیکی پارتیکی سیاسی سه روو موخافه زه کاره وه بلاوده کاته وه بۆ پشتیوانی کردنی چالاکی یان تیروانییکی سه روو موخافه زه کاره وه، بلاو ده بیته وه، ده بیته مایه ی که م کردنه وه ی بایه خی تیروانییکی لیبرالیانه. به پیچه وانه وه پرۆگرامی رادیۆیه کی چه پرو پشتیوانی له لیبرالیزم ده کات، کاتیک پرسیار له سه ر به ها کانی کۆنسرته تیزم (موخافه زه کار) ده و رۆژنئی. جارتیکی دیکه ش، دوویات ده که یه نه وه نه م جۆره دایه لۆگه، به هایان ده بیت تا نه و کاته ی که هاوولاتیان له پیگه و بۆ چون و مه به سه کانی نوسه رو لایه نی بلاوکه ره وه، تی بگه ن. ئیمه ی نه ندانمانی هاویه یمانان زۆر خوشحالین به و فراوانی و پانتاییه ی که له بلاوکراوه رۆژنامه وانییه کانی کوردستانی عیتراقدا هه یه. بنه مایه کی تۆکه مه رووه راگه یاندنیتیکی نازاد لیره، دانراوه. له گه ل نه وه شدا، نابئ رۆژنامه نووسان وای دابنئین که به ته وای نامانجی هینانه نارای راپۆرت نووسی بی لایه نیان، ده ستکه و توه. به رده وام بن بۆ هینانه دی نه و نامانجی ... هه ره ها رۆژ دوی رۆژ ئیوه هه نگاو تیک نزیکتر ده بنه وه له به دامه زراوه یی کردنی بنه ما دیوکراتیه کانی راگه یاندنی نازاد.

کۆلۆنیل. هاری. جهی. شوت

تیکرای دانیشتیوانی نه م گونده هه ژارن و جوتیارن. کاتیک کاریان له سه ر پرۆژه کانی سیسته می دابه ش کردنی ئاو و بنکه ی ته ندروستی (قه لاتئ) دکه را، تیمه که داوای ده رفه تی خۆپندنیان بۆ نه و دوو منداله کرد. به کارکردن له گه ل به رتیه به ری خزمه تگوزاری کۆمه لایه تی له ده وک، زۆر به خیرایی توانیان نه وه بۆ منداله کان ریک بخه ن که خۆپندنی نازادو شوپنی به شه ناوخویان له قوتابخانه ی که رولالان له ده وک بۆ دابن بکه ن. له ۱۵ / ۹ / ۲۰۰۳ نه م دوو منداله خراوه به ر خۆپندن و ده ستیان به گه شتی نوئی بۆ ده رفه تی نوئی له ژبان و هینانه نارای نه و خه ونه ی که خۆبان و دایک و باوکیان پیتر هه یان بوو.

له کاتی نه نجسام دانی هه لسه نگاندنیتیکی رۆتینی گونده کان، تیمیکی کاروباری مه ده نی سوپای نه مریکا سه ردانی گوندی (قه لاتئ) ناحیه ی (بجیل) یان له سنوری ئاکرئ کرد. له کاتی کۆپونه وه یان له گه ل که سایه تیه ناسراوه کانی نه و گونده، مندالیتیکی (۹) سالانه یان ناسی که که رولاله. نه و منداله هه یج جۆره خۆپندنیکی تایبه تی نه بووه و تاکه هۆکار تیک بۆ په یوه ندی کردن ته نه ها هیمما به کارهینان بووه له ریکه ی ده سه ته وه. به هۆی گرانی ریتزه ی تیچوونی خۆپندنی تایبه ته وه، خیزانی نه و منداله نه یان ده توانی منداله که یان بخه نه ناو پرۆگرامیتیکی تایبه ته وه. مندالیتیکی دیکه ی که رولال له گوندکه دا بوو، نه ویش نه یده توانی چاو دیره کی تایبه تیان هه بیت.

