

Document concerning the rules to be obeyed by HPG forces in war

In keeping with our unilateral ceasefire decision vis a vis the Republic of Turkey state as of 13 April 2009 until 1 June 2010, our guerrilla forces adopted a purely defensive position. Our guerrillas exercised the right to a very limited number of replies to attacks mounted by the Republic of Turkey state.

After our movement's ceasefire request accompanying the 29 March 2009 elections in Kurdistan was officially converted into the non-conflict/non-action decision on 13 April 2010, the attack that was mounted against the Kurdish political legal sphere was intensified and has continued until today.

The Republic of Turkey state detained thousands of Kurdish politicians and placed thousands of children behind bars; incidents involving the lynching of Kurdish youth continued to grow in number; murders by unknown perpetrators once more took place in the open streets, the raping of our women and daughters now made its way into state schools; operations against our guerrillas continued unabated; daily rocket attacks, and most recently intense bombing aimed at annihilation using a fleet of twenty aircraft, were conducted against our Media Defence Areas.

Despite all of our self-sacrificial efforts and our insistence on the method of peaceful, democratic dialogue, the Republic of Turkey state and its ruling force of the AKP did not abandon its plan to subject the Kurds to genocide in political, military, cultural, social, psychological and economic terms. On the contrary, it mounted attacks on the Kurdish people and its liberation movement based on a concept of liquidation to an extent unwitnessed in the history of the Republic of Turkey. The Republic of Turkey state and its ruling force of the AKP, which has virtually premised all of its international relations on liquidating the Kurdish Liberation Movement, as it endeavours to create an anti-Kurdish alliance throughout the world and especially the Middle East, is engaging in a fascistic policy of genocide.

In the face of such fascistic, single-minded, liquidatory, destructive and genocidal approaches and policies, the continuation of the unilateral ceasefire became meaningless. By virtue of these reasons, our movement ended its unilateral ceasefire as of 1 June 2010. We the HPG forces officially declare that we greet this decision with respect. We make known to public opinion that with the Iskenderun action the unilateral ceasefire ended and we lifted it.

The reply given by the Republic of Turkey state and its ruling force of the AKP to our insistent efforts has been genocide. It has been to deepen annihilation and denial. It must be known that we will engage in active struggle against all manner of genocidal policies, starting with this refined, masked cultural genocide.

The war will no longer be as it was; the war will not be waged in Kurdistan alone. The nature of the war will change. Until today, the intensity of the war was, under the insistent pressure of our Leadership, kept at a low level. In response to the aspirations and pressures of our Leadership, we kept the war at a limited level and largely at a low level of intensity, on the basis of giving a chance to the Republic of Turkey state and the AKP.

It is certain that our guerrilla movement will depart from the limits that it has until today set and bring a new dimension to our legitimate war of self-defence. Our legitimate self-defence will henceforth target the territory of Turkey, principally cities, touristic areas, economic establishments and institutions, bureaucratic and military commanders who are enemies of the Kurds, politicians who promote enmity towards Kurds, institutions that steal, degenerate and degrade the cultural values of the Kurdish people, and all individuals and structures that plunder their resources below and above the ground, poison their historical heritage and historic tissue, disturb Kurdistan's ecological balance and, within this context, have designs on the Kurdish people's values.

No longer will the war be as it was. The war will cease to be a war of low intensity, and will be moved onto a medium-intensity level. To this end, the war will have a high dosage. We wish everyone to know this.

The war of medium intensity will have its own character. By way of priority, all structures that are hostile to the Kurdish people will be targeted. We have on this basis entered a process in which we ourselves will set out our own line.

We also wish it to be known that, in the face of the policies of denial and destruction waged in response to all of our insistent calls for democratic dialogue, we will adopt our own path under the slogan, "Let Us Construct Democratic Autonomy". The proclamation of democratic autonomy is essentially the process of constructing our own system. We cannot create fraternity and union unilaterally with forced ultimatums. Fraternity and union are concepts that can develop on the basis of mutual understanding. The Republic of Turkey state and its opportunistic ruling force has with the policies that it has manifested until today adopted nothing but the denial and annihilation of the Kurds as its basis. Accompanying itself with sold-out, hardened, treasonous, collaborative, desperate, wet-behind-the-ears, greedy and traitor Kurds, it has implemented its refined liquidation plans in the belief that it will attain success.

Every self-respecting person will acknowledge that they will reject the most multifaceted denial and annihilation - the knife pressed against their throat - and that resistance to this is their most fundamental right.

Indeed, according to the UN Geneva Convention, "*The struggle for independence pursuant to the principle of self-determination of peoples under colonial rule shall not be assessed in terms of a state's internal security problem but shall be assessed within the scope of the prohibition of the use of force in international affairs.*" The UN General Assembly resolution dated 24.10.1970 number 2625 has confirmed this. It makes the assessment that, "*Article 1/4 of the first protocol*

dated 1977 concerning international conflicts annexed to the Geneva Convention dated 12.08.1949 [...] armed conflicts in which peoples are fighting against colonial domination and alien occupation and against racist regimes in exercise of their right of self-determination are international conflicts." A number of conventions that have been adopted on the international level include armed defence as one of the means to which peoples and groups may make recourse under circumstances where rights are usurped. However, nobody prefers war unless necessary.

Recourse to the legitimate right of self-defence against regimes which occupy Kurdistan, do not even grant the opportunity for the most natural rights such as language, culture and identity to be exercised, violently suppress every kind of democratic right and aspiration and recognise no law in this regard is inevitable.

We, the Kurdish Liberation Movement's guerrilla forces, guarantee that we will abide by the UN Geneva Convention and the Hague Court of Justice decisions.

Embarking upon a new process of tough resistance and struggle, we the HPG wish to share with public opinion the RULES THAT MUST BE OBEYED IN WAR DOCUMENT.

1- The police, gendarmerie, military establishments and armed forces, being the state's organisations of force, along with the counter organisations that support them and bureaucrats, agents, the Gendarmerie Intelligence Organisation and single-minded politicians who actively participate in the war, engage in profiteering from the war, target the civilian population and are frenzied with all of this and individuals and entities that degenerate our people's cultural values are the target.

2- Every people has the right to defend itself against the threat of attack and annihilation against its national and cultural values. In the process of cultural genocide levelled against the Kurdish people, this right is more legitimate than ever. We announce that we will henceforth widely exercise this right as a right of response and will respond in kind to designs against our people and its values.

3- In the legitimate war of self-defence, it will be seen to that civilian, defenceless segments will not be targeted, they will be protected and their lives guaranteed, in the war the non-combatant wounded and prisoners will be afforded treatment and security of life, in this regard, organisations such as the international humanitarian organisations, the Red Crescent and the Red Cross, will be granted the opportunity to perform inspection and work. International legal oversight will be accepted in the war. The work of members of the press will be supervised.

4- In embarking on a tough war of resistance with the Republic of Turkey state, every kind of economic contribution that may be made towards the Republic of Turkey war economy will fall under the scope of our target. To this end, we state above all that tourists should not come to Turkey. If they come, they themselves will be responsible. Also, every kind of economic

establishment and entity that in economic terms is intertwined with the Republic of Turkey's military industry and military defence will be our target. To this end, we urge distancing from any kind of inclination that will result in bombs raining down on the Kurdish people, otherwise we officially declare that we will not be responsible for the negative consequences that will ensue.

5- Civilians will not be targeted for attack. Civilians will not be uprooted and will not be prevented from accessing fields, summer grounds and pastures. Means that are necessary for civilians to sustain their lives will not be attacked, food embargoes will not be applied and food stocks will not be destroyed. Care will be taken so that children, women and the aged are protected.

6- The life, honour, personal rights and beliefs of captured soldiers, police officers, security force members and civilians under the authority of the other side will be respected. Nobody will be subjected to physical and spiritual torment and torture. They will not be exposed to racist and discriminatory practices.

7- Extrajudicial punishments will not under any circumstances be imposed.

8- Soldiers, police officers and security force members who have surrendered or for other reasons are non-combatant will not be killed or injured.

10- It will be a matter of principle to capture and neutralise village guards and agents; action will not be taken with the aim of killing them. However, if village guards participate in the Republic of Turkey state's attack-oriented operations and interventions they themselves will be responsible for the negative outcomes. We also indicate with insistence that, within this coming tough process of struggle, all village guards should drop arms and remain neutral in the theatre.

11- Forests will not be burnt and destroyed. Historic tissue will not be harmed.

12- No manner of biological, nuclear or chemical weapon (asphyxiating, caustic, nerve gases etc.) will be used. Caustic weapons (such as napalm, flame throwers, phosphorous) or weapons that have a destructive effect on people, plants, animals or the ecological balance will not be used. Mines and booby traps will not be used apart from with military targets and no kind of mine, trap or explosive that threatens the life of civilians will be used. Marble bombs will not be used.

**With revolutionary greetings and respect
Hpg Chief Headquarters Command
7 June 2010**