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## 28 YEARS ON, IRAQ'S KIRKUK REMEMBERS TURKMEN MASSACRE

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Anadolu News Agency (28 March 2019)

A ceremony was held in Iraqs northern city of Kirkuk on Wednesday to commemorate the 1991 massacre of scores of Turkmen by Saddam Husseins Baath regime.

The bloodbath occurred on March 28, 1991 in the town of Altun Kupri, where more than one hundred Turkmen -- including children and the elderly -- were reportedly killed by Iraqi soldiers.

Organized by the Iraqi Turkmen Front (ITF), Wednesdays ceremony was attended by Hakan Karacay, the Turkish consul in Erbil; Aydin Maruf, an ITF lawmaker; and a number of local officials and residents.

Speaking to Anadolu Agency on the sidelines of the event, Karacay said that Turkmen were a main component of Iraqs national fabric, stressing Ankaras continued support for the political, economic and cultural rights of the countrys large Turkmen community.

May our Turkmen brothers who were martyred in the [1991] massacre rest in peace, he said.

The perpetrators had hoped to efface the political and cultural presence of Iraqi Turkmen, he added.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/28-years-on-iraqs-kirkuk-remembers-turkmen-massacre/1431890>

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