

*(Translated from Arabic)*

**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations Office at Geneva**

**1. Ms. Riham Yaqoub**

A working group from the Police Department in Basra governorate and the Department of Criminal Affairs and Movements began the investigation and inquiry phase to collect leads, evidence and information about the murder of Riham Shaker Yaqoub Al-Imara. It visited the scene of the incident, where it conducted an examination and took all other necessary measures. The body was sent for a forensic examination. The working group then went to Al Fayhaa Hospital and took the statements of civil claimants and witnesses. It emerged that that the victim was shot and died from her injury.

Information gathered during the inquiry indicates that the victim was a civil activist and had participated in the 2019 demonstrations. Investigations revealed that she had attended few of the recent demonstrations and sit-ins and that she had left the site of the sit-in in Basra and had no intention of returning.

The fact that there are no cameras at the crime scene makes it more difficult to identify the perpetrators.

The investigation file was presented to the investigating judge, who decided to hear the civil claimants and record their statements in court. Due process was observed when it came to the autopsy and handing the body over to the family. Efforts are ongoing to identify the perpetrators. The investigation file was referred to the Basra Second Investigation Court, which has territorial jurisdiction.

**2. Ms. Lodya Remon Albarti**

The case of Ms. Lodya Remon Albarti is still under investigation. Any updates will be sent in due course.

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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations Office and other International Organization at Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, Special Procedures Branch, and with reference to the latter's letter dated 28 September 2020, concerning the joint urgent appeal from special procedures with regard to alleged attempted killing of a women human rights defender Ms. Lodya Albarti and the killing of a women human rights defender Ms. Riham Yaqoub, in Basra, has the honour to transmit a response of the Government of Iraq regarding the above-mentioned cases.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, Special Procedures Branch, assurances of highest consideration.



**Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights,**  
**Special Procedures Branch**





## The response of the Government of Iraq to the joint urgent appeal from special procedures

أولاً: **Ms. Riham Yaqoub**

- باشر فريق عمل من مديرية شرطة محافظة البصرة والمنشآت/ مديرية الشؤون الجنائية والحركات، بمرحلة التحقيق والتحري لجمع القرائن والأدلة والمعلومات عن جريمة قتل المجني عليها (رهام شاكر يعقوب الإمارة)، من خلال الانتقال الى محل الحادث واجراء الكشف والتدابير اللازمة، وارسال الجثة الى الطب العدلي، ومن ثم التوجه مستشفى الفيحاء وتدوين أقوال المدعين بالحق الشخصي، وشهادات الشهود، وتبين إنها تعرضت لإطلاق نار وقد فارقت الحياة متأثرة بإصابتها.
- أشارت المعلومات اثناء التحري الى ان المجني عليها كانت ناشطة مدنية، وقد شاركت في مظاهرات عام 2019، من خلال التحقيقات تبين بان حضورها كان قليلاً في المظاهرات والاعتصامات الأخيرة، وانها قد انقطعت وبصورة نهائية عن ساحات الاعتصام في محافظة البصرة.
- إن خلو محل الجريمة من الكاميرات يزيد من صعوبة التعرف على الجناة.
- تم عرض الاوراق التحقيقية على قاضي التحقيق، وقرر تسيير المدعين بالحق الشخصي وتدوين اقوالهم قضائياً، وتم اتخاذ الاجراءات القانونية الأصولية من حيث تشريح الجثة ومن ثم تسليمها الى ذويها، ولازالت الجهود مستمرة لمعرفة الجناة، وتم احالة الأوراق التحقيقية الى محكمة تحقيق البصرة الثانية بحسب الاختصاص المكاني.

ثانياً: **Ms. Lodya Remon Albarti**

ان قضية السيدة (لوديا ريمون البارتى) لا تزال في مرحلة التحقيق، وسوف يتم ارسال أية مستجدات بشأنها لاحقاً.

