

PRAY
AND ACT
FOR
PEACE
IN IRAQ



Merciful and Loving God,

Thank you for allowing us to walk with our sisters and brothers around the world who cry out and work for justice and peace. Walk with them, and with us.

Walk with:

- **Susan**, who, when her village near the border of Iraq and Iran was bombed by Turkish military lost her lower left leg. As an unmarried woman of 27, she is severely depressed because she believes her life is over.
- **Zardasht**, who sees the leaders of his Kurdish Iraqi city keeping a tight grip on corrupt systems that permeate all of their society. His choices are either to join one of the two main political parties and perpetuate the system or risk his life and future leading a social movement to demand change.
- **Nasser**, who was abducted, beaten, and jailed for writing a newspaper article criticizing security officers. When he agreed to modify his critical statements, the head of security dropped charges against him. This spared him five years in prison, but may stifle his voice of conscience.
- **Turkish government officials** who authorize the bombing along the Qandil Mountains to target Kurdish rebel fighters considered “terrorists,” yet end up bombing villages in the valleys, injuring civilians, destroying their homes, cattle, and crops, leaving them displaced and fearful of returning.
- And **U.S. government officials** who provide intelligence and allow Turkish jets to fly over Iraqi land to carry out the bombing raids.

Give them wisdom and strength. Guide them in the way that brings life.

Take our hand as we walk.

Give us the love that strengthens and compels us:

- **to confront** and seek the transformation of those who would do evil;
- **to expose** justifications for violent interventions and attacks;
- **to see** each life as precious, as our own child, sister or brother;
- **and to conquer** our own fears, so that we can move out beyond our own weakness and walk in Joy!

Amen.

Peggy Gish is a member of Christian Peacemaker Teams, currently serving in Iraq. For more information about CPT, visit www.cpt.org.