



Ziadeh Learns from Yemeni Transitional Justice Experience

Dr. Radwan Ziadeh, president of the Syrian Commission for Transitional Justice, visited Yemen to participate in a conference held by the Yemen Civic Culture Development and Minbar Alhurriyya.

Dr. Ziadeh gave a lecture entitled “The Necessity of Transitional Justice Democratic Transitions in the Arab World” in which he explained the principle of transitional justice and its applications in several countries. He talked about the transitional justice experiences in South Africa, Rwanda, Morocco, and Tunisia and explained the relationship between political transition and transition justice. Additionally, Dr. Ziadeh explained the importance of the political forces’ commitment to transitional justice during the transitional phase regarding accountability and insuring compensations for victims morally and financially, in addition to the importance of truth-revealing and holding perpetrators of human rights violations accountable especially in Morocco.

Furthermore, Dr. Ziadeh met a number of officials in charge of the transitional justice file in Yemen, including the minister of legal affairs Mohammad Al-Mkhlafi, who presented a transitional justice project detailing aspects of national dialogue. This project is expected to be adopted by the Yemeni government.

In addition, Dr. Ziadeh met many Yemeni activists, civil society organizations, and revolutionary councils. One of the activists that Ziadeh met was Tawakkol Karman, who won the Nobel Peace Prize for her significant efforts and role in the Yemeni revolution, which ultimately succeeded in toppling the former Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh. Moreover, Dr. Ziadeh participated in a number of Yemeni traditional dialogues to discuss the political and security issues in Yemen and the transitional justice process’s priorities.

The Yemeni government has discussed for more than two years the creation of a project implementing transitional justice law. The law was debated in special Yemeni national dialogue sessions, where there were disagreements on the application of accountability and the amnesty law that was proposed in Yemeni initiatives.

Afterwards, Dr. Ziadeh visited a number of memorials and monuments that memorialize the victims of the Yemeni revolution. Ziadeh also looked over a number of projects that documented enforced disappearances cases that emerged in Yemen after the Yemeni revolution in 2011.

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