

## WHO WE ARE

The LAONF group is composed by organisations and individuals with different ideological and political background, gathering around the idea of non-violence as the most effective way to struggle for an independent, democratic, peaceful Iraq.

LAONF is neither a political party nor an organisation: it's a free gathering of people, and any Iraqi sharing the same ideology is welcome to join it.

This group believes in a humanitarian approach to non-violent struggle, which is made real through supporting any non-violence movement and group of activists all around the world. We refuse occupation and war as a way to build democracy and establish rule of law, even when it is presented as the only possible option: we believe in promoting peace culture and dialogue instead.

The LAONF group shares and celebrates the historical culture of non-violence all along human history with a special focus on non-violence traditional movements in Islamic world and Middle East.

The LAONF group was established in April 2006 by Al Mesalla centre as leading promoter, together with several Iraqi non governmental organisations.

Vision: we look forward being the major focal point in Iraq to defend citizens' right to use non-violence means to struggle for democracy, equality and respect of human rights.

Mission: the LAONF group works to promote and widespread the culture and knowledge of non-violence as an effective way for resistance. We want to explain and teach the non-violence techniques and tools as an alternative to war.

Means: the group aims at reaching their goals through the following means:

- 1 - our website, presented in Arabic, Kurdish and English;
- 2 - organising at least one yearly happening to promote non-violent struggle and to call for reconciliation, peace and dialogue among different ethnic groups;
- 3 - organising workshops and training sessions about conflict management, conflict transformation, non-violence and strategy planning for peaceful struggle;
- 4 - implementing projects that can generate income for victims of violence, and any activity that aims at overcoming anger and hatred in the victims, to promote instead a positive attitude and support their integration in the community;



5 - translating, printing and distributing reasearches, books, studies about non-violence;

6 - any other activity matching with the principles of the group and with the respect of human rights and rule of law.

[www.laonf.net](http://www.laonf.net)

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