Kurdish women in the zone of genocide and gendercide
Abstract

The first political struggles for women's emancipation coincide with the rise of nations, nationalism, and the nation-state during the bourgeois democratic revolutions of the late eighteenth century. This formation of modern nation states has generally been associated with the use of violence. War, massacre, genocide, and ethnic cleansing are some of the forms of violence used by both premodern and modern states throughout the world. All these forms of violence have been patriarchal. State violence and patriarchal violence have been and still are inseparable.

Keywords

Kurdish women; Genocide; Gendercide; War zone

References


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It is no exaggeration to call this gendercide. Women are missing in their millions—aborted, killed, neglected to death. In 1990 an Indian economist, Amartya Sen, put the number at 100m; the toll is higher now. The crumb of comfort is that countries can mitigate the hurt, and that one, South Korea,
has shown the worst can be avoided. Others need to learn from it if they are to stop the carnage. Other East Asian countries, including Taiwan and Singapore, former communist states in the western Balkans and the Caucasus, and even sections of America’s population (Chinese- and Japanese-Americans, for example); all these have distorted sex ratios. Gendercide exists on almost every continent. It affects rich and poor; educated and illiterate; Hindu, Muslim, Confucian and Christian alike. 7. Shahrazad Mojab, 2003, Kurdish Women in the zone of genocide and gendercide, Al-Raida, Volume 21, No. 103, Fall 2003, 8. Rowland, Robin 1995, Human rights discourses and women: Challenging the rhetoric with reality, in Symposium: Human rights and the sociological project, ANZJS Volume 31, No.2, August 1995. Gendercide is the systematic killing of members of a specific gender.