

Genocidal Attacks Against Christian and Other Religious Minorities in Syria and Iraq

Joint Subcommittee Hearing

Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa

September 10th 2014-Washington DC

Testimony by Pascale Warda

President of Hammurabi Human Rights Organization, Iraq

Former Iraqi Minister of Migration and Displacement

Thank you for inviting me to this hearing. I was honored to meet with a number of congressional members, their staff and organizations interested in developments in Iraq during my two previous visits to Washington in June and July, especially the hearing on July 15, 2014. But, I am sorry to report nothing has changed. On the contrary, the suffering and abuse of Iraqi minorities continues and I say here and now we have not seen the worst of pain and sorrow.

The number of persons displaced by ISIS rose to more than 1.5 million, mostly Christians, Yazidis, Shabak and Turkmen Shiites.

Minorities are threatened with death and executed, they are kidnapped and raped, they are robbed and pillaged. They are denied water and electric service. Women are kidnapped and sold and forced to marry ISIS members. Women are forced to wear veils. Men are forced to grow beards.

There are 200,000 Assyrian Christians and 150,000 Yazidis and other minorities displaced from their homes and living in refugee camps in Arbel, Ankawa, Dohuk and Suleimaniya.

Worldwide, Assyrians have four major denominations: 45% Chaldean Catholic, 26% Syriac Orthodox, 19% Assyrian Church of the East and 4% Syriac Catholic.

The refugees are living in streets, open fields, schools, and church halls and courtyards, abandoned, condemned and unfinished buildings and in large tent camps.

Winter is approaching, and many of the old, young and weak will not survive the cold weather.

The displaced children will miss their school year. The local children will also miss their school year because schools are overfilled with refugees.

The following actions must be taken to avert an even worse catastrophe.

Short term:

- Provide humanitarian aid to the refugees. Aid is inadequate. There is a lack of shelter, food, water, medicine and clothing.
- Clear ISIS from Mosul and the Nineveh Plain so that the displaced residents may return to their homes ahead of winter. They will not return if ISIS is still in Mosul.
- Designate the Nineveh Plain as a safe haven and provide an international force for protection to stabilize the region, regardless of whether Iraqi or Kurdish forces are there, so that residents may return to their homes. The Nineveh Plain has been neglected by both Kurds and Baghdad. This long term safe haven would be similar to the one provided for the Kurds in 1991.
- Financially compensate all displaced persons for their property and income losses.

Long term:

- Establish an autonomous region for each the Assyrian Christians and the Yazidis, to be administered by them.
- Create Assyrian Christian and Yazidi manned units within Iraqi police, military, security and other institutions and station these in Assyrian and Yazidi areas, so that they will defend themselves and their villages.
- Gain international recognition for the genocide against Assyrian Christians, which has been ongoing since 1915.

The solution for the Iraqis displaced by ISIS is not to offer them passage out of the country, but to remove the threats to them, whether from ISIS or from their neighbors who collaborated with ISIS, and stabilize the region, providing civil and economic security. This will insure that Christians Assyrians, Chaldeans Syriacs, and the others will remain in the land in which they have lived for over 6700 years.

The ideology which controls The Muslims Jihadists is a criminal Islamic ideology, which is based on two sources, the Koran as the obligatory word of Allah and the Sunna (Hadith) of the Prophet Mohammed. This is encapsulated in by the Muslim Brotherhood in one sentence: "Allah is our goal, the prophet is our ideal, the Koran is our constitution, jihad is our way, and the death for the sake of Allah is our aspiration."

This phrase was repeated in the Streets of Paris while French Muslims were demonstrating, most of them Arab origins. The Muslim Brotherhood is the basic cell from which stem all the current Islamic terrorist movements, regardless of their name.



ISIS is not a danger to Iraq and Syria only, it is a danger to all democratic countries. Therefore, democratic countries must hold accountable all countries and entities that support ISIS and similar groups.

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization Reports

September 6, 2014

- In Mosul there has been a sharp increase in the number of persons detained at the Badush prison in the last ten days, resulting from increased arrests of people resisting ISIS. Arrests are made by ISIS mostly in night raids.
- Looting and pillaging continue in the Nineveh Plain, and especially in the cities of Baghdede and Tel Kepe. Trucks roam the neighborhoods and select houses to be raided and transport the furniture to unknown locations. Organized gangs from surrounding villages conduct the looting under the supervision of ISIS.
- ISIS are holding a number of Yazidi women in one of the villages near Tal Afar in a prison built for this purpose. The conditions are extremely harsh. The women are given one Loaf of bread per day and are forced to use contaminated water for drinking. The women are also being forced to marry ISIS members.
- 25 Christians who were being held by ISIS in the SayedaZaineb mosque in Sinjar were transferred two days ago to nearby homes west of the mosque. ISIS gunmen forced two other Christians to convert to Islam and they are being held in a house separate from the other detained Christians.
- Two Christian families, residence of Baghdede, who were detained by ISIS in Mosul were released. It is not known why ISIS released these two families.
- Hundreds of Yazidi families are still being held in the Yazidi village of KasirMihrab in the Tel Afar District. ISIS are preparing to transfer these families to an unknown location.
- ISIS have forced Yazidi girls to marry in the village of Kojo in the Sinjar District and are planning to conduct a collective wedding in the next few days.

August 30, 2014

- Most homes of university professors who fled Mosul are completely controlled by ISIS and were looted of all valuables, including furniture.
- New families are appearing in many of Mosul's neighborhoods. ISIS are bringing Iraqi and non-Iraqi families from other cities and towns and placing them in the empty homes of the Christians, Yazidis, Shabaks and Turkoman.
- There is a transfer of bodies in open cars every morning in Mosul, indicating a campaign to cleanse certain groups from the city. There is a high probability of the existence of mass graves for the bodies of citizens who are executed.
- A large, crowded market has sprung up, and it is cynically called "Daash Market." There is much furniture and household items for sale, as well antiques, old cultural heritage goods and a large selection of mobile phones. All of the merchandise is stolen from homes abandoned by fleeing residents.
- Families continue to suffer from lack of official documents after ISIS stripped them of everything. HHRO has appealed to the government to facilitate the issuance of new documents.
- Concern is escalating among the refugees that they will not return to their homes before winter. Nearly all of the refugees do not have winter clothing to protect them from the cold and snow.
- A number of women and girls who had been sold by ISIS were able to escape and some of them have arrived in the city of Dohuk. ISIS has abducted hundreds of women and girls and sold them in Mosul and in the Syrian city of Raqqa.
- Many suicides have been recorded among the refugees, especially among the ones who were stranded in remote areas and who lacked food, water and shelter. HHRO confirmed the suicide of a Yazidi in Dohuk on August 29.

August 28, 2014

- Many homeless children have begun to appear in Mosul. A 4 month old infant was found in a garbage dump.
- ISIS seized all homes in Mosul belonging to Nineveh Province judges and some of these homes were granted to ISIS leaders for housing, others were closed and marked with "reserved for the State of the Islamic Caliphate."
- ISIS is trying to recruit residents of Arab villages for looting the homes of Assyrians in the Nineveh Plain. Many have been recruited but many Arab residents of these villages have refused and have condemned the looting and any persons engaged in the activity.



Figure 1 HHR0 Humanitarian relief with the aid of CSI.

- Seven people were kidnapped by ISIS in Baghdede, among whom were young girls.
- There are daily, organized robberies taking place in Baghdede, including looting of all auto parts stores, vehicles, tires, batteries, as well as large scale looting of home furniture.
- The majority of refugees have now spent their money and they are now begging in the streets, particularly women.
- The risk of disease and epidemic is extremely high in refugees camps, especially in halls and houses that are packed over capacity with refugees. Overcrowding is seen in church halls, schools and other areas.

August 24, 2014

Mosul

- Residents contacted via telephone say life in the city is unbearable and discontent with ISIS is very high. Residents have expressed readiness to join any resistance that can liberate Mosul from the terrorists.
- Thousands of students remains in limbo regarding the 2014-2015 school year, especially with ISIS orders that contradict entirely normal academic operations.
- ISIS is delivering messages to some non-minority residents who fled from Mosul that they can return to the city, declare repentance and receive pardon so they can resume their daily lives. Upon returning, they are arrested and imprisoned. Attorney Najla Omari was arrested using this ruse, as well as tens of others.



Figure 2 Assyrian refugees in Ankawa, Iraq.

- ISIS has ordered some government departments to open, but sends its inspectors to ensure the staff is adhering to Sharia dress code imposed by them, and to severely punish the offenders, especially the women, who must wear the full veil from head to foot.

The Nineveh Plain

- ISIS left the city of Telsqof in near total destruction. Homes and public buildings were looted and vandalized. All farm equipment was stolen. Muslim residents from surrounding villages assisted ISIS in the looting of Assyrian homes and business.
- ISIS bombed the Yazidi shrines in Bashiqa, as well as shrines of the Kakaeya Sufi sect. All are destroyed.
- Information from Yazidi families indicates that ISIS has placed captured nearly 15,000 Yazidis and placed them in schools and hospitals in Tal Afar and surrounding areas. They separated the men from the women. The captured Yazidis are starving. The Yazidi women are guarded by ISIS women. The prisoners are scattered in south Sinjar, Ghazlani camp and at the airport in AlGayara.
- Relatives of Yazidi prisoners say they received a call from a captive woman from the village of Kojo who witnessed Yazidi men being killed, and the women being taken to Tal Afar.



Figure 3 HHRO distributing aid to Assyrians and Yazidis.

August 21, 2014

In Arbel there are now 5 refugee deaths per day, going back to August 7.

- The number of refugees has overwhelmed the relief agencies. There is scarcity of food and shelter. Distribution channels are slow and ineffective.
- Refugees are anxious about the military operations against ISIS in their towns and villages, and they fear for their property, especially in light of the fact that many of their former Muslim neighbors have participated in looting and plundering.
- The number of Assyrian Christian families seeking asylum has risen as hundreds of families who are now in Turkey are waiting in front of United Nations offices in Ankara to register and apply for emigration.
- The vast majority of the refugees are pressuring religious and political leaders to find a way for a rapid mass exodus out of Iraq, because of all the suffering, hardship and difficulty they are experiencing. Large numbers of families are still sleeping on sidewalks and parks and there is the fear this situation and their plight will extend into winter.
- There is anger, frustration and tension among the refugees as they are being moved from the halls and courtyards of churches into United Nations camps.
- The Ministry of Displacement and Migration is extremely slow in giving grants to refugees. Thousands of families in Dohuk have yet to receive grants. In the words of one refugee, "they move on the back of a turtle."
- The condition of Yazidi refugees is becoming critical for lack of camps to house them, forcing hundreds of families to shelter in unfinished buildings in the city of Dohuk.

August 18, 2014

- Yazidi refugees from Mount Sinjar and Assyrian refugees are still heading to the province of Dohuk and its outskirts, where there is no longer an area not inundated with refugees. The Dohuk province does not have the infrastructure to service the refugees, unlike Ankawa in Arbel, and the threat to the refugees from the lack of food, water and shelter is now critical.

- International aid organizations are overwhelmed and cannot provide the required level of relief aid to refugees. There is also gross deficiency in the distribution of aid because of the lack of accurate data on the number refugees and their locations.
- Military operations for clearing ISIS from the Nineveh Plain and Sinjar are slow, allowing ISIS to loot and plunder the abandoned homes and villages, as has occurred in Bartella, Telsqof, Bashiqa, Baghdede and other areas.
- The Department of the Ministry of Displacement and Migration in Dohuk is overwhelmed, delaying the processing refugees for receiving of aid from the Iraqi government.
- Large numbers refugees who are government employees have not been paid for months of June and July and do not have money to purchase basic daily necessities.
- ISIS killed more than 200 Yazidi men in the village of Kojo, located in the south-east area of the Sinjar district, after the village was besieged for several days. They were given a choice to convert to Islam or be killed. More than 100 Yazidi woman were taken from the village.
- Conditions in Mosul hospitals is deteriorating rapidly as ISIS imposes strict rules on female doctors, ordering them to be fully veiled, including the hands, which hampers their work when treating patients.
- The conditions of the Assyrian and Yazidi refugees in Ankawa and other areas in the Kurdish region is desperate because of the acute lack of food, water and shelter. There is now great suffering, with refugees losing hope of returning to their homes and becoming depressed.



Figure 4 Yazidi children injured by ISIS attack.

August 13, 2014

Mosul

- ISIS forced child patients at the cancer hospital in Mosul to hold ISIS flags and then photographed them for propaganda purposes.

The Nineveh Plain

- The Assyrian Christian towns of Telsqof and Bashiqa have been completely looted and plundered by ISIS. All homes have been emptied of valuables. The looting and theft occurred during daytime hours.

Yazidis

- Reliable sources report that Turkish border guards killed ten Yazidis who had gathered at one of the border points between Iraq and Turkey and were demanding to be allowed to enter Turkish territory to save themselves from attacks by ISIS.
- More than 100,000 Yazidis and other minorities are now in the town of Khanak and their situation is extremely dire. They do not have any food, water and shelter. The village of Hizawa has received a large number of refugees and is also in need of relief aid.
- A paralyzing despair has gripped the Yazidis, who are pleading and begging for their rescue and asking to emigrate from Iraq. The prevailing sentiment among Yazidis is that there is no force that can protect them and that another catastrophe will befall them after a few years even if a safe haven is secured for them now in Iraq.

August 11, 2014

Mosul

- ISIS ordered all families to obtain approval before burying their dead. Approval must be obtained from ISIS "princes" and burials must be in accordance with procedures specified by the "princes."
- The city saw the remarkable appearance of completely veiled women accompanied by a male family member, and there has not been a sighting of any woman out alone even in markets or for other tasks.

The Nineveh Plain

- The number of people who have left the areas of Baghdede and the Nineveh Plain is nearly 200,000; they have fled to Arbel, Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah. Some have traveled to the Iraqi-Turkish border crossing of Port Ibrahim, hoping to leave their country.
- There is no information on the fate of the families and individuals who remained in Baghdede, Tel Kepe, and Karemlis. Verified reports indicate that ISIS gathered these families in the Tawheed mosque in Baghdede and ordered them to convert, pay jizya or be killed.
- ISIS is providing gasoline for a number of families to facilitate their flight. This has occurred in several towns and villages.
- According to verified reports, there are Yazidis still in flight, walking in forests and barren lands, hoping to meet officials from the offices of the United Nations.
- Reliable sources report that the number of women who have been kidnapped by ISIS is increasing on a daily basis, and there are armed women with ISIS whose duty is to inspect the faces of the girls and women and select and isolate the beautiful ones to sell them or forcibly marry them to the ISIS fighters.

General Condition of Refugees

- The situation of the refugees is past critical and is now a humanitarian crisis. Aid must be delivered immediately to prevent thousands of deaths. According to an Iraqi General, 70% of the Yazidis on Mount Sinjar are dead.
- Water is the most critical component, as there is not enough for the needs of the tens of thousands of refugees, who have already begun using unpurified, stagnant and dirty water. The threat of a cholera outbreak now looms large on the refugees.
- While the bulk of the refugees in Dohuk and Ankawa (Arbel) are Assyrian Christians, there are a great number of Yazidis, Turkmen and Shabaks as well.

ISIS "Amnesty" Offer

- Assyrian Leaders dismissed an offer of "amnesty" by ISIS, which it made to the few Assyrians who had remained in Mosul and Baghdede. ISIS asked these Assyrians to tell their Christian friends and relatives that ISIS has "pardoned" the Christians and they may return to their homes without fear.
- Calling the offer "preposterous," Assyrian leaders asked how such an amnesty can be issued to Iraqi citizens who are guiltless and faultless, saying that amnesty is usually issued for criminals and outlaws and not for law-abiding citizens. The leaders demanded that ISIS admit to committing gruesome crimes against humanity against Assyrians, Yazidis, Turkmen and Shabaks.

August 9, 2014

Mosul

- On August 9 ISIS began forcing all women to wear the full veil, which covers the face completely. Males members of the family of a woman who does not comply would be flogged according to Sharia law.
- ISIS has established a black market for basic necessities, especially medicine, its financial gain.

- According to reliable sources, some of the young men and boys recruited by ISIS who are receiving training in camps inside the city have started to flee and are in hiding for fear of prosecution by ISIS.

The Nineveh Plain

- ISIS continues to violate human rights in areas under its control.
- There is no accurate information about the number of families that stayed behind and did flee from the areas now dominated by ISIS, though the number is thought to be low.
- Some reassurance was felt from the likelihood that the security situation might soon improve after ISIS positions in the province of Arbel were bombed by the Americans.
- The Yazidis trapped at the foot of the Sinjar mountain have begun to safely leave and are likely to head to the far north, close to the Turkish border. A large amount of relief has been airdropped.
- Communication was lost with many displaced families that are still wandering in the wilderness and remote areas, especially after the batteries of their cell phones were depleted.
- The refugees who traveled to the far north of the Nineveh Plain suffer from the lack of basic services, as well as a shortage of medicines because of limited health care services available in these areas.
- Most of the refugees lack funds needed to buy some special needs.
- Homes in Baghdede and Tel Kepe have been confiscated for the "princes" of ISIS.
- The living conditions for refugees are miserable. In many cases there are more than 100 people living in a space that normally accommodates only 20 people.
- The condition of the refugees in Arbel is worse than that of those that are in the Dohuk and the northern areas because greater numbers of people went to Arbel, and there are huge crowds of displaced people in the area of Ankawa.
- The aid provided by human rights and charitable organizations is severely limited. There is a humanitarian crisis.
- There is great fear of the possibility that ISIS will begin abducting women and enslaving or selling them, as happened in Tal Afar and Sinjar.
- Suicides have occurred in Sinjar as a result of frustration, desperation and fear. One case has been confirmed of a girl committing suicide after she saw ISIS kidnap four of her sisters from her home.

July 8, 2014

Mosul

- All construction work has come to a complete stop and construction workers are now unemployed.
- There is increased demand for black colored clothing and veils and hijabs.
- Women are not allowed to walk the streets unless accompanied by a male.
- Nearly all barber shops and women's salons have closed.

The Nineveh Plain

- Water and electricity continue to be severely limited. Residents who have dug wells are unable to purify the water for safe drinking.
- Relief efforts are not adequate. The Christian Solidarity International Commission, International Red Cross, Kana, Caritas and Hammurabi Organization for Human Rights are providing some relief.

June 30, 2014

Mosul

- ISIS seized the house of Dr. Duraid Hikmat Tobia in Mosul. Dr. Tobia is a member of Hammurabi Human Rights Organization and an Advisor to the Governor of Nineveh on Minority Affairs and General Coordinator with International Organizations. Dr. Tobia had received a telephone call from the militants telling him that his home has been confiscated by them.

- ISIS continues to takeover houses belonging to Christians who fled the city.
- ISIS seized control of the house of the Chaldean Patriarchate in the city.
- Mosul resident continue to leave, most to Dohuk and the Nineveh Plain, with fewer going to Arbel.

The Nineveh Plain

- Tension continues in the areas of Baghdede (Hamdaniya District) between the ISIS and Kurdish forces, causing instability and the slow return of the displaced Assyrians, Shabak and Turkmen.
- Kurdish forces continue to reinforce their position on the western side of Baghdede.
- After the kidnapping of two nuns, Sisters Utoor and Miskintah, two girls and one boy three days ago, nearly all churches and monasteries in Mosul are now empty, the religious staff has left them abandoned for now.
- Electricity continues to be in scarce supply. Only 15 megawatts reaches the Nineveh Plain, which is only 3% of the required amount.
- ISIS have cut off the water to Tel Kepe, Batnaya and other villages.
- Garbage and waste continues to accumulate in towns and villages because municipal waste workers were fired by ISIS.
- ISIS occupied a house belonging to the Chaldean Bishopric located in the AlShurta neighborhood in Mosul.
- There is a shortage in medical services because medical workers, particularly Shabak and Turkmen, have fled or were fired by ISIS. Only a few Christian doctors and staff remain.
- The continuing shortage of water and electricity is preventing residents from returning to Baghdede.
- Residents of Baghdede have begun drilling wells to secure water.

June 30, 2014

Mosul

- The disappearance of two nuns, Sister Utoor and Sister Miskintah, who managed the Miskintah Orphanage in Mosul, has been confirmed (AINA 2014-06-30).
- Families continue to leave Mosul; most of the displaced are heading north to the Nineveh Plain and to the Dohuk Province.
- The growing scarcity of basic supplies and medicine, as well as severe shortage of electricity and water, is becoming a threat to the health and safety of the population.
- The status of thousands of civil servants who were removed from the jobs by ISIS remains unclear. These employees were to receive their salary for the month of June last week, but they have not been paid.

The Nineveh Plain

- Assyrian Families have begun returning to Baghdede (Qaraqosh) with caution as security in the area is still uncertain.
- There continues to be a severe shortage of water and electricity. The use of portable generators is declining as fuel supplies diminish.
- There has been a substantial increase in unemployment because of the suspension of commerce in the districts of the Nineveh Plain, as caused by the ISIS invasion.
- Numerous villages, towns and districts of the Nineveh Plain continue to receive families displaced from the center of Mosul, as well as from the district of Tal Afar.

June 26, 2014

Mosul

- Reliable sources report that gunmen rounded up many of the security agency members of the police and army and others in Sabrine Mosque and asked them to declare what they call "repentance" and surrender

their weapons and other military equipment. After doing so, all of the prisoners were tried and sentenced according to Sharia law and executed.

- A resident of Mosul who fled with his family to the Nineveh plain reported that ISIS members told him by telephone that his home in Mosul had been confiscated for one of the "princes" of the Militia. He also added that there are many more similar cases.
- ISIS has prevented delivery of government food rations to Tel Kepe and other areas not under their control.
- Cars with large loudspeakers roamed the streets of Mosul telling people that the judgements that will apply in the city are according to Sharia laws and no other laws will apply.
- There has been a significantly pronounced decrease in the movement of women and children within the city. Gunmen have prevented all employees in the city from attending their jobs.
- There has been a significant rise in food prices. Fruit and vegetables have become very scarce. ISIS has ordered that no ice blocks are to be sold.
- Residents continue to leave the city and are having great difficulty reaching safe areas.



Figure 5 HHRO helping Christians and Yazidis.



The Nineveh Plain

- Electric and water service is still severely limited. All districts and municipalities in the Nineveh Plain only obtain about one hour of electricity per day, and these areas suffer from lack of water because of ISIS control of AlRashidiya and AlSlamiya water projects that provide the Northern and Southern Nineveh Plain with potable water.
- The villages of AlKibba and Shraikhan within the Tel Kepe district came under attack on the night of June 25 by insurgents who targeted the residents of the village, forcing people to escape on foot. A number of the residents were killed and many men, young and old, were arrested, their fate is still unknown.
- Residents who fled from Baghdede have not been allowed to enter the Dohuk Province on June 25, forcing these families to stay in the open or to go to other towns in the Nineveh Plain.

June 24, 2014

Mosul

- There is a job paralysis and a halt in all financial and banking activity as ISIS has forcefully prevented all female employees from working. All members of minority groups have been fired from public service positions.

The Nineveh Plain

- The suffering of the residents of the Nineveh plain has been exacerbated since the fall of Mosul to the militants. Residential neighborhoods receive only one hour per day of electricity while only 10 to 15 megawatts of energy reaches the Nineveh Plains and that is devoted mostly to hospitals and water projects. An agreement with the Government of the region to provide 40 megawatts has not been honored.
- Militants are still in control of Hamdaniya water project and are only allowing 90 minutes of pumping through two pumps. This situation has intensified the suffering of the people in Hamdaniya, Bartella and Ba'shiqah municipalities, particularly with the sharp rise in temperature.

- In the district of Tel Kepe, all residents receive domestic water for only two or three hours per day. The source of drinking water is under the control of the militants in the area of al-Rashidiya. The people of Tel Kepe also receive one hour of electricity per day and they are unable to use their private generators for lack of fuel. The electricity shortage is expected to worsen in the next few days.
- The accumulation of trash in residential areas is significantly noticeable because most sanitation employees are not working and fuel shortages. Doctors have warned of the possibility of the spread of epidemics as a result of the decomposition and decay of the waste.

Mental Health

- Monitors of this situation have noted a high frequency of anxiety, fear and frustration as a result of the exceptional circumstances that prevailed in the region, the scarcity of electricity and water and the surge in fuel prices. There are reports of high anxiety and unrest which is causing some people to leave the affected areas.

Government Assistance

- The Ministry of Displacement and Migration embarked this morning on distributing aid including food items and furniture to more than 250 displaced families that came to Hamdaniya District.

Other Cases

- We have been informed by reliable sources in the Makhmor District that gunmen told all the Arab service employees and security forces to leave Makhmor District and not attend work, but to return to their Arab villages, even though Makhmour District is still under the control of the Kurdistan Regional Government.

June 23, 2014

Nineveh Province

- On 6/21/2014 ISIS destroyed the statue of the Virgin Mary at the Immaculate Church of the Highest in the neighborhood of AlShafa in Mosul, as well as the statues of Mullah Osman Al-Musali and the poet Abu Tamam.
- ISIS militants ordered Christian, Yazidis and Shiite government employees not to report for work in Mosul.
- Shiite Turkmen in the villages of AlKibba and Shraikhan fled after receiving threats from ISIS.

Sinjar District

- Militants have threatened to attack the center of Sinjar District with mortars because it received the displaced Shiites from Tel Afar.

Hamdaniya District (Baghdeda)

- On Saturday, 6/21/2014, gunmen attacked the village of AlShamsiyat in the Alhamdania District and arrested 25 village elders and young men who are Turkmen; their whereabouts is still unknown.
- Armed militants raided the village of Qaratapa Arabs to search for a person wanted by them, but they did not find him.
- On Saturday, 06/21/2014, the insurgents raided the village of AlKahara in the Nimrud Municipality in Alhamdania District to search for the Director of the District, Mr. Ahmed Obaid, and one of his relatives from the military leaders named Khaled Kosofi, but they were not found, and as a result the militants bombed their homes.

Utility Services in Hamdaniya, Bartella, Karamles, Bashiqa and other villages

ISIS has severely limited the electric service to Hamdaniya. The available electric power is first used for water purification projects and pumping, and what is left is distributed to residents at a rate of just one hour per day.

The water supply in Mosul is under the control of ISIS, it is only available for a few hours per day. This is the sole source of water that feeds Hamdaniya, Bartella and Ba'shiqah municipalities. The number of people who depend on this is more than 350,000. The populations has been forced to depend on wells and many of these are not suitable for drinking.

Economic situation

The economic situation in the District suffers from volatility and decline. A number of displaced families visited the Department of Immigration and Displacement for aid. The registered number for this aid reached hundreds by Saturday June 21, 2014 and the number continues to increase.

Iraqi Women Under ISIS

We in the Iraqi Women Network we have struggled for years for women's issues.

There are hundreds of reports from Sinjar, Tel Afa, Bashir sub-district, Mosul city, Nineveh Plain and Amerli about incidents of kidnapping and harassment against women and girls, as well as assaults, sale of women into sexual slavery, murder, threats, robbery and forced conversion to Islam. This is in addition to the seizure of their houses and the looting and destruction of their possessions.



Figure 6 Yazidi woman defending her children in Sinjar.

In the areas controlled by the terrorists, fear spread among women because of the threats and attacks perpetrated on them. In Badush prison in Mosul, there are 160 women from various groups. Some, accompanied by their children, are subjected to torture, beatings, whipping and sexual persecution. Three of these detainees were released, one only 17 years old, under the condition of Jihad marriage for every 15 days with one of the gunmen.

On August 13, 2014, Doctor Ghada Shafiq (female) was killed in Mosul. Later, attorney Ms. Najlaa Al-Omari, who was a candidate in the elections of April 2014 was killed. On August 21 a woman accused of prostitution was publicly beheaded. Women are prevented from going outside the house and in all those areas women suffer from lack of medicines and the necessary needs for health.

During the last two weeks, there have been kidnappings and murder of women, as well as suicides. Seven women in Mosul have been kidnapped. Three women were murdered. A Yazidi woman and girl both committed suicide after they escaped from an ISIS prison. Upon arriving at Sinjar mountain, they threw themselves over the cliff because they could not bear the shame of being repeatedly raped while in prison.

Dozens of children and pregnant women have died from lack of medical treatment.

ISIS have set up prisons in every city and town and village it controls. There are more than 500 Christian and Yazidi women being held, as well as Shabak women, and their fate is unknown.