

العراق

IRAQ

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The statue of rescue the Iraqi Culture 2010  
By M. G. Hikmet

# Facts about Iraq

Capital and Larger Cities	Baghdad
Population	37,547,686
Religions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Islam (95%)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Shiites (65%) – Spelled Shia'a</li><li>▪ sunnis (35%) –Spelled Sunna</li></ul></li><li>▪ Christians and Others (5%)</li></ul>
languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Official:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Arabic</li><li>▪ Kurdish</li></ul></li><li>▪ Others (Turkmen, Persian... etc.)</li></ul>
Ethnicities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Arab (75%)</li><li>▪ Kurdish (17%)</li><li>▪ Others (8%)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Assyrians, Turkmen, Mandeans, Armenians</li><li>▪ Circassian, Iranians, Shabakis, Yazidis,</li><li>▪ African descent.</li></ul></li></ul>
Government	Federal parliamentary republic



Coat of Arms

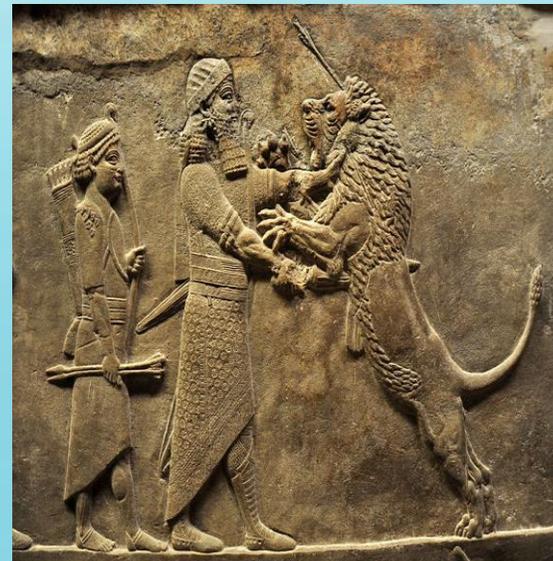
# Map of Iraq



# Iraq: Birthplace of Civilization, Biblical Arena

## Ancient Mesopotamia

- The “Fertile Crescent” – The land between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, the hypothetical location of the “Garden of Eden.”
- One of the centers of earliest known human civilization.
- Home of the Babylonian, Assyrian and Persian Empires.
- Figures prominently in the events and history chronicled in the Old Testament.



# Modern Iraq

- 1918: Iraq, a part of the Ottoman Empire, is seized by the British in World War I.
- 1932: Iraq is made an independent kingdom.
- 1958: Iraq becomes a “republic,” ruled over by military strongmen and torn by competing factions.
- 1968: The Ba’ath Party overthrows government; General Ahmad Hasan Al-Bakr, relative of Saddam (Hussein), becomes president



King Faisal II

# Modern Iraq - The First Problem

- 1979: Al-Bakr “resigned;” Saddam becomes President.
- 1980 – 1988: Saddam launched a war against Iran to reclaim disputed border regions.
- The war dragged on for eight years; the two nations lose over 1,000,000 men between them.



# Modern Iraq – Second Problem

- 1990: Saddam invaded Kuwait (Money-debt, Oil and Political Issues).
- 1991: A coalition of nations led by the United States and operating under the authority of the United Nations defeated Iraq and freed Kuwait. (**Desert Storm**).
- 1991: UN Security Council decided that Iraq must disarm itself of all weapons of mass destruction “WMD”.
- UN also applied heavy economic sanctions “Embargo” lasted until 2003.



Almost **100,000** surrendering Iraqi soldiers became **Prisoners of War** (POWs).

# Iraq and Weapons Of Mass Destruction

- Iraq has failed to comply with UN resolutions and has continued to seek and develop WMD.
- 2002 Congress passes Authorization for use of military force (AUMF)
- UN ordered weapons inspectors out as American (invasion – liberation) appeared imminent
- President Bush ordered Saddam and sons out.



- War began on March 20, 2003 (Iraqi Freedom).

# The dream has come TRUE

- April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2003, the US army announced the full collapse of Saddam's government.
- The page of dictatorship has been turned over.
- Saddam has disappeared as well as his family and followers.
- Most of the Iraqi people celebrated that day and remembered their loved ones who have been arrested, persecuted, and killed by Saddam.



# CAP- a month after April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2003

- The USA formed the CPA
- Paul Bremer assigned to be the president of CPA.



Paul Bremer



# The conflict

- Misunderstanding Freedom.
- Underestimating Freedom.
- The major old-new conflicts between Sunnis and Shiites in Iraq.
- De-bathfication.
- Disbanding the Iraqi army.
- Islamic parties agendas.
- The cake of the new Iraq



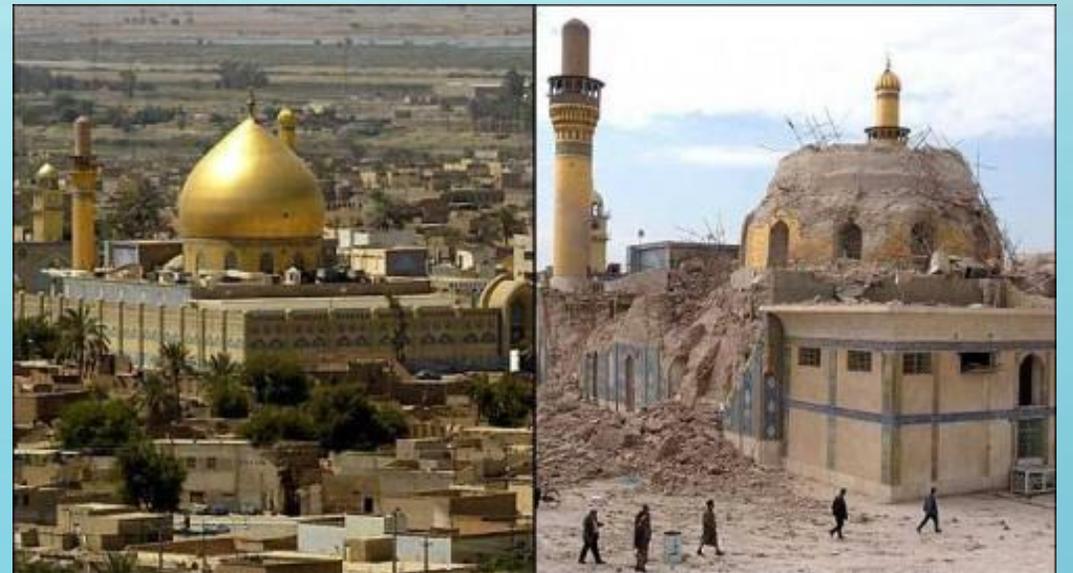
# Fighting the US troops

- Mostly in **Ramadi** (West of Iraq)
  - Sunni radicals.
  - Armed generals.
  - leaders of Ba'ath party.
  - Slice of the cake.
- Also, in **Najaf** (where I live).
  - Shia radicals.
  - Iran's agenda against the US.
  - slice of the cake.
- Other Places.



# Civil War / 2006 -2009

- Samarra (North of Baghdad).
- Islamic Historical City.
- Mellweyah - Manarah.
- Bombing Imam's shrine, Feb 2006.
- Two of Shiites' imams buried there.
- The war started the same day, in Baghdad.
- Baghdad is a mixed community.
- Fighting, killing, deporting.
- Ghosts city.
- Smell of death everywhere.



# Ending Civil War - 2010

- The US authorities did their best.
- New Iraqi army.
- Baghdad divided into 2 sides again.
- Shiites did not entering Sunnis' places and vice versa.
- Concrete fences to sperate.
- They started to control their minds again.



No to Sectarianism



لا للطائفية  
فهى سم يقتل الجميع حتى صانعه

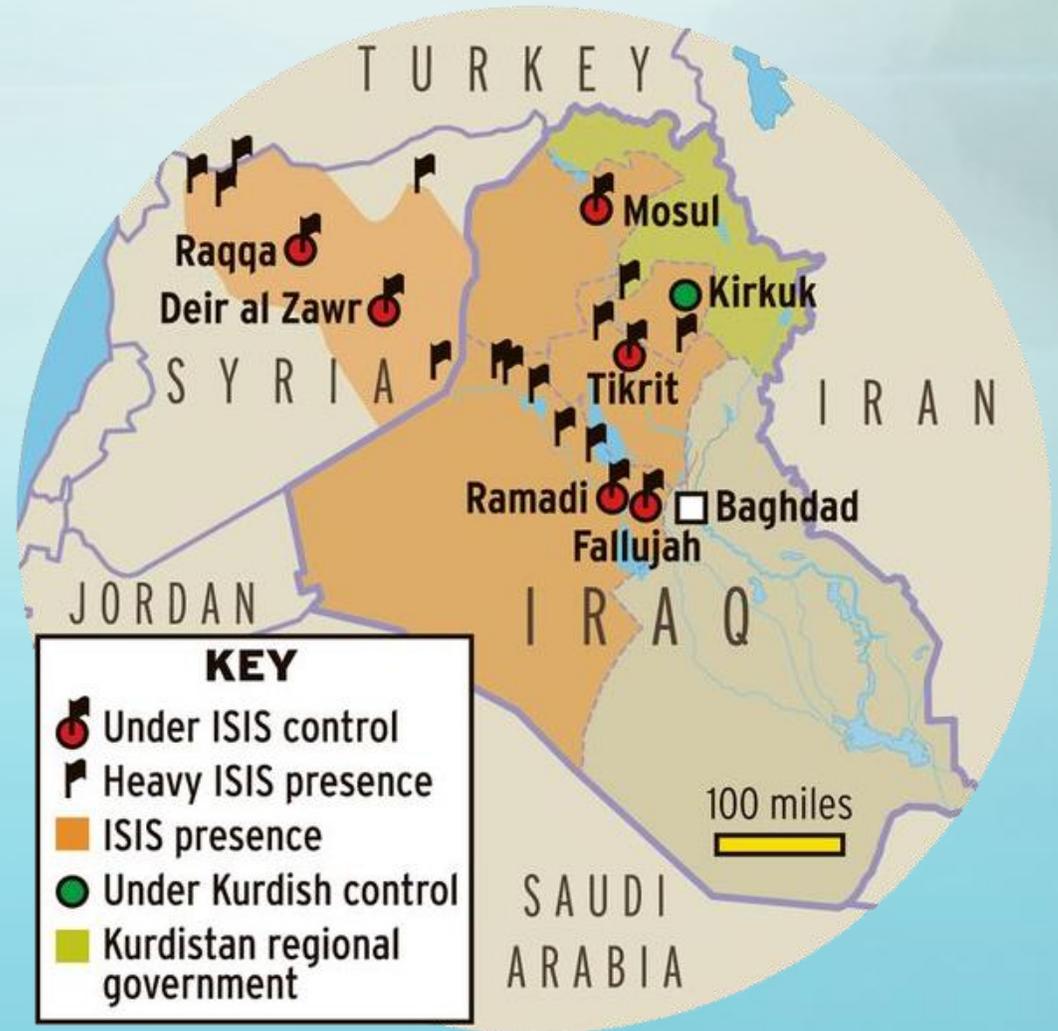
# Personally;

- I had to go to Baghdad often.
- Putting my soul on my hand.
- Scared and terrified.
- Different faked IDs.
- I lost two of my close friends and three of my cousins.
- Survived for many times.



# ISIS

- June 2014 – March 2015
- Corruption and conflicts.
- Hatred and outside agendas.
- Lack of knowledge.
- Lack of loyalty.
- Lack of dignity.
- Lack of honesty.
- Hypocrisy.
- Faked agendas of Islamic political parties.

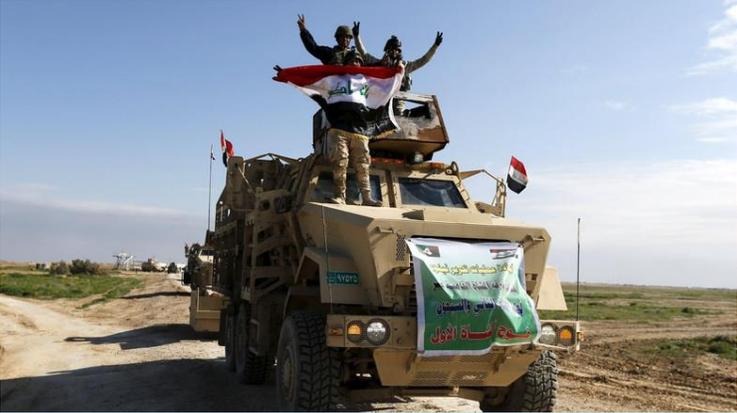


# Fighting ISIS

- United States Of America.
- The NATO coalition.
- Iran.
- New Iraqi army, federal police and special forces.
- Kurdish army.
- Shiites militias.
- Some Sunnis tribal fighters.



# Fighting ISIS in Progress;



# Hope will always be there!



# Iraqi People still want to live!



Shaima, Miss Iraq 2016

# Question!

From what you have learned;

Should freedom be given to other people?

If yes, How is that, and when it has to be given?

# FREEDOM



Ask me any question about Iraq



