Annual Report | 2019

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization

On the Human Rights Situation in Iraq

Field monitoring (interviews, follow-up events, meetings with the affected, dialogue sessions with human rights activists, data on violations, comparisons of information on these situations)

The reason for demonstrations is to move hope towards fulfillment.

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization ensure the rebuilding of what was destroyed by the terrorists; that is the restoration of violated rights.
Table of contents

Introduction 2
Statistics of HHRO on the losses of demonstrations 3
Follow-up to demonstrations, sit-ins, and political movement 7
The kidnappings and killings of Iraqi citizens at the beginning of the popular protests from 10/1/2019 to 20/12/2019 13
Iraq required to fulfill its international commitments 15
Injustice continues in some official decisions 17
Conditions of Minorities 19
Compensation and transitional justice 26
Christian survivors under ISIS 26
Economic conditions in the most damaging regions of ISIS 27
Conditions in Tribal Areas 32
In the province of Nineveh 32
Weak return of Yezidis and Christians to their areas of origin 36
New statistics on the Yezidis victims of ISIS crimes 38
The reality of services in the Nineveh Plain region 40
Proposal 41
Rehabilitation of displaced persons and refugees and support for return to the Nineveh Plain 42
The situation of Iraq’s hospitals is a flagrant violation of human rights 48
Violations targeting Iraqi women / the reality of Iraqi women in Nineveh province 53
Human rights violations affecting different citizens 55
In Basra province 56
Conclusions 57
Recommendations 63
Summary 65

Introduction
While Iraqi attention focused on hopes for significant changes in favor of human rights in the country, the horrible actions against the people continued. As Iraq gave priorities to legislation and procedures that would put an end to violations against human beings and fundamental rights, the suffering continued to be tragically repeated and prevailed in a form of indifference by official authorities. Yet still, hopes focused on making necessary changes in the Iraqi intellectual structure towards respect for human rights.

The year 2019 witnessed more violations targeting many Iraqi components, first among them the Iraqi minorities. In this context, provinces and regions of Iraq recorded continuing flagrant violations against the most basic daily rights to security, economy, education, health, employment, and municipal services. The suppression of freedom of opinion grew as a result. One fundamental right is that people are allowed to make their voice heard as an expression of awareness of the continuing plague represented by political, administrative, and financial corruption practiced by some official authorities and ruling parties. Suppression of this leaves the doors open to external interference and affects the sovereignty of Iraq for all to see. The most serious of these flagrant violations is the bloody response to the massive popular demonstrations in Baghdad and in several central and southern provinces in the last three months of 2019 (October, November, and December). The Iraqi youth exercised the rights guaranteed by those authorities in the second chapter of Part One (Rights and Freedoms) Freedoms Article 38, first and third of the new constitution. It represented the right for peaceful demonstration: as a right of free expression. This was clearly codified in the constitution, as an approach to building a democratic system that includes the people. The murders targeting citizens and protesters, the kidnappings and the detentions of peaceful protesters represent a blatant violation of civil rights and therefore represent cruel practices that must be wholly rejected.

"Governmental" measures remained in a state of disregard and neglect. Blatant disregard in dealing with these dangerous events was evident. The significant indifference prevailed, despite steps taken in terms of the government's passing of new election laws as well as the formation of a new judicial commission to implement the election plan. With all of the efforts employed, it nevertheless became apparent that corruption existed in the judiciary. And all these measures have not been able to remove from the Iraqi reality the heinous and persistent violations against innocent people and children peacefully demonstrating. These youth were confronted with weapons, and not even the girls, women, or youth escaped the abuses, as shown in the pictures included.

Statistics of HHRO on the human losses of the protests
On the field level, Hammurabi observed the following about the protests:

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization (HHRO) followed the mass and youth demonstrations that started with 10/1/2019, protesting the deteriorating situation in the country. Unemployment and corruption spread to all regions of Iraq and provinces, which were met with excessive violence and clashes between protesters on one hand and security services and armed factions on the other.

Through monitoring the fields of protests, the cadres and activists of HHRO documented the human and material losses for the last three months of 2019.

The number of those who died in these protests during the last three months of 2019, totaled 514 people, the majority of them civilians. The toll included one officer and fifteen of the ranks. Our sources explained that 340 of them were killed while demonstrating in the protest areas, while 158 people were killed outside the protest areas. The sources indicated that the protesters who died outside the central demonstration areas were killed in separate areas in Baghdad as well as in the provinces.

The number of wounded reached 11,982. Observers in the organization revealed that most of the wounded were attacked by tear gas during confrontations and that 10,090 of the injured were admitted to government hospitals.
Hammurabi Organization for Human Rights

hospitals and were registered officially. At the time, 1,892 people who were infected with gas were treated outside of the hospitals. The demonstrations were accompanied by acts of violence, sabotage, and the presence of infiltrators. In addition, parties exploited the protests, destroyed and burned shops and retail stores, burned government buildings, homes and schools and government and non-governmental vehicles. They attacked satellite channels, burned diplomatic buildings, and religious shrines.

HHRO has documented through its monitoring efforts and the spread of its members and monitors in various fields and recorded that there are more than 68 government buildings that were attacked and burned. Additionally, 168 stores, commercial stores, a company, and a building were destroyed, as well as 103 headquarters and political party offices were burned and attacked. There were eight satellite channels attacked by armed groups. Two private banks, one religious shrine, 55 residential homes, and four schools were subjected to damage and assault. Observers also confirmed that up to 350
vehicles belonging to government ministries, most of which are affiliated with the Ministry of Interior, were burned and destroyed, along with 40 civilian vehicles, and 75 motorcycles.

The Iranian consulate in Najaf was also burned and assaulted several times. Also, 80 caravans and booths were burned and destroyed, as were more than five tents. HHRO also followed up kidnappings, assassinations, and suicides. Unidentified bodies were found in most provinces of Iraq during the period from 10/1/2019 through 12/31/2019. According to reliable sources of the organization, and during the last three months the Iraqi provinces of 2019, there were 95 kidnappings, 91 assassinations, 76 suicides, 110 deaths from terrorism, and 47 unidentified bodies found.

By following the statistics collected by our organization’s sources, during the last three months of 2019, the city of Baghdad recorded the highest number of kidnappings, assassinations, and killings due to terrorism. As those sources have documented, the number of kidnapped people in Baghdad was 33, with 32 assassinations, 25 suicides, and 11 bodies were found.

Diyala city ranked second after Baghdad, with the number of kidnapped at 14, 50 people killed as a result of terrorism, 12 assassinations, two suicides, and three bodies found. Next came Basra, where the number of kidnapped were ten people, with 14 assassinated. In Dhi Qar, 9 cases of kidnappings were recorded, eight unidentified bodies were found, and 19 people committed suicide. In Najaf, five kidnappings, two assassinations, and four suicides were recorded. In Kirkuk, the number of kidnapped was 4, those assassinated numbered 10, while 11 people were killed as a result of terrorism, and five unidentified bodies were found. In Babylon, there were five kidnappings, two assassinations, and four suicides were recorded, with one case killed due to terrorism and five unidentified bodies found. Al-Muthanna province recorded the lowest number among the eighteen provinces, as it witnessed only one kidnapping and one assassination.

At the end of January 2020, during the preparation of this report, HHRO monitored cases of killing and wounded who fell in the demonstrations. Hammurabi monitors reported that 17 protesters had died 250 civilians were injured in the demonstration yards. The organization also recorded the number of wounded and dead in the ranks of the security services, with three police officers that were killed. There were 450 policemen and 39 officers wounded. There were 60 retail stores burned, 15 headquarters of political parties were burned in many provinces, five state buildings were burned, with about 65 vehicles belonging to ministries, with most of them being from the Ministry of the Interior.
The popular protests and demonstrations in Baghdad and the rest of the Iraqi cities continued and resulted in more economic and security damage. Also affected were loss of work for businesspeople, workers, and educational staff. The peaceful demonstrations were the physical manifestation of a desire to achieve a fundamental change in the mechanism of governance in Iraq. Yet those in power continued to ignore the demands of protesters. HHRO paid great attention to following the demonstrations and urged the authorities not only to refrain from harming the lives of the protestors but also to punish the criminals who were killing protesters. The organization sought to preserve the peacefulness of the demonstrations as a constitutional right in a country that adopts democratic principles safeguarded by international covenants.

Targeting unarmed young women and men is a crime.

HHRO cameras capture young graduates at the gate of the green zone in front of Al-Mualaq bridge.

Follow-up to demonstrations, sit-ins, and political movement
The popular uprising in Baghdad and in several other provinces from the beginning of October 2019, continued through the end of the year. With the start of popular demonstrations, sit-ins, and due to its unacceptable use of live weapons against protesters, Hammurabi Human Rights Organization has documented the field activities that took place. They issued several statements and documents on these activities, making proposals to fulfill the rights of the Iraqi people, away from any domination, confiscation, or containment. (They can be read on the website of the organization: www.hhro.org.)

The proposals of HHRO can be summarized by the following:

1. Documentation of activities on demonstrations, sit-ins and demands that have taken place in Iraqi streets.
2. Condemnations and denunciations of killings, kidnappings, and detentions of protesters.
3. Demands for judicial punishment for all those who killed protesters directly or by incitement.
4. Calling on the ruling political powers to stop the tactics against protester’s rights.
5. Facing the phenomenon of judicial corruption and revealing all those involved in this socio-economic scourge, as well as the widespread waste of money, theft, and unlawful gain.
6. Reconsidering the current political mechanisms based on sectarian quotas. Working to reform the political system by making constitutional amendments that meet the civic values and principles that preserve the rights of all Iraqi components. Amending the election law and supporting free and fair democratic elections.
7. Adopting developmental economic policies that face the recession that struck the Iraqi economy, expanding job opportunities, and achieving self-sufficiency, thus making Iraq capable of sustainable human development.
8. Achieve justice and provide rewarding compensations to all Iraqi victims subjected to violations by armed and terrorist groups.
9. Conduct a comprehensive review of all laws and regulations that limit women’s rights and work to enhance their role in political life and basic economic opportunities
10. Serious and balanced fulfillment of the International Convention on Children’s Rights, especially since Iraq has ratified this convention.
Women and children of Iraq do not give up to injustice and orphanhood, but rather rise up in demonstration for their rights under one banner.

Women and men hand-in-hand for Iraq
It was confirmed that the use of tear gas bombs were horrific violations by the police. The offense was not in the use of tear gas itself but instead in the way it was used. The horror is that they were fired directly at the heads of the protesters, which caused the killing of protesters rather than their dispersal. This applies to the ruling authorities, who did not stop these terrorist acts.

HHRO appreciates the attitudes of Iraqi citizens for the initiatives they have taken to serve citizens and protesters. Iraqi citizens worked to help the wounded or those who were stranded, especially the “Tuk-Tuk” drivers, who distinguished themselves in saving the afflicted and transported them to hospitals along with martyrs. The peacefulness of the demonstrations is also appreciated because it gave witness that the young generation understood the meaning of democracy more than many politicians and legislators. This practical and exceptional experience exemplifies what is meant by people being the source of authority, as stated in Article five of the Constitution, “Sovereignty of law and people are the source and legitimacy of the authorities.”

HHRO urgently calls on the authorities of all kinds to stand up to the perpetrators of the deliberate killing of civil activists, journalists, and protesters and to legally hold the perpetrators responsible. Furthermore, to preserve the constitutionality and protection of the demonstrations. This in accordance with Article 38: Third of the Constitution, which states, “The state guarantees freedom of assembly and peaceful demonstration.” What is required, in the
context of preserving democracy, is to reach, through institutional work, a just response to the demands of the protesters, not to suppress them.

HHRO urges the Iraqi authorities to carry out security responsibilities and not to lessen the dangerous situation that has led to the deaths of hundreds of young martyrs, protesting children, and thousands of wounded.

The current crisis in Iraq and the suffering of protesters and protesters demanding legitimate rights, make it imperative for the Iraqi authorities to engage appropriately. To serve the constitution by ending the violence against the uprising youth as it hinders rebuilding a civil basis. Also imperative is to put an end to all the violence against those protesters as well as the decisive action to punish all those who caused death, detention, forced absention, and displacement. Included in the imperative, is to listen intently to popular demands for job opportunities, justice, balanced sustainable human development, and treating the imbalances that cause corruption, neglect, political and sectarian tendencies as well as demographic change.

HHRO considers that the current stage of Iraq's comprehensive reform efforts requires Iraqi legislators to take into account the provisions and international instruments on human rights in any legislation that is passed. These provisions can help to legislate more humane laws by considering the importance of the priority of respect for rights and the maintenance of human dignity. They must give room to organized freedoms with laws that protect the citizenry. We also recall that Iraq, upon ratifying any international text and publishing it in the official Iraqi newspaper “Al-Waqaii,” consider that the text is an integral part of Iraqi law.

Therefore, awareness of these texts by judges, deputies, lawyers, and citizens, will contribute to more informed legislation and judicial decision-making. It affords a view to changing the mentality of violent solutions without which the normalization of the heinous measures causes harm to the lives and memory of many generations, not just the victims. Such heinous measures are far-reaching and are accomplished through murder, kidnapping, or facilitating the death sentence.

The adaptation of Iraqi laws is needed. Specifically, provisions of international law for the protection of human rights and unconditionally those ratified by Iraq, are required. These include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the covenants, or agreements to which they are complementary, and all conventions that constitute the International Bill. In particular, the two International Covenants: The Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights and the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 1966 and the Protocols thereto and the four Geneva Conventions on the observance of human rights during armed conflicts.
Rules and protocols delineated in the Geneva Conventions have been violated in an unprecedented way in Iraq by the excessive use of live weapons against protesters. The organization appreciates the general insistence of the protesters and the peaceful protesters on demanding their fair and legitimate rights, especially awareness of the appropriate context for rights in a democratic country. Also, because demonstrations and sit-ins moved stagnant political waters and pushed the three authorities to review their approaches for a comprehensive correction, and not to continue the usual patching style. Iraqis women, men, and even children are no longer overlooking the neglect or the scale of the destruction caused by political corruption affecting their lives.

- HHRO calls on the Iraqi authorities to stop using live bullets and tear-gas explosives that caused severe damage among protesters and victims.
- The organization calls on the authorities to urgently draw up serious and decisive plans to follow up on the isuse of the kidnapped and the missing and to stop practicing the policies of indifference and cruelty against people.
- HHRO calls for a developed economic policy that achieves justice, promotes the economically impacted regions and facing the phenomenon of widespread unemployment in the country.
HHRO observed a clear distinction between the reports issued by the Ministry of Health and non-governmental bodies concerned with the demonstrations regarding the number of dead and wounded and the chaos that prevailed in some squares.

HHRO noted more than one political religious party endeavor to try to communicate with the protesters. One of these organizations sought to erect a platform in Tahrir Square in central Baghdad, but the protesters prevented its followers from completing the platform.

HHRO followed the proceedings of the parties and political components throughout the demonstrations, including the positions of the government and the measures taken. These positions were overshadowed by the nature of the accelerating changes that Iraq witnessed during the last three months of 2019. In general, the government hastened to take several measures described as reformative. One such measures was to reduce the salaries of employees of the first degree to the fourth degree by half, as well as measures to appoint graduates with Master’s and Doctorate degrees. In addition, the measures included appointing more than 1,500 Engineers to the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Transport and distribute them to other government departments. Additionally, steps were taken to absorb some of the contract employees as permanent staffing. It also arranged to convert daily wage-earners in many ministries to staff with contract assignments.

The Ministries of Interior and Defense also took measures to return the dismissed staff and those of abrogated contracts to service. The total number estimated more than 50,000 employees in the two ministries. The government also submitted draft laws for amendments, including retirement law. The amendment reduced the retirement age to 60 years with the possibility of retirement at the age of 45 in the event of completing 15 years of service. According to the estimates of the specialists, this will provide more than 300,000 job degrees and a project to establish a social security fund for the poor and orphans, who do not have a fixed income. Allocations of its funds to come from the state’s contribution and the funds resulting from the reduction of the salaries of first-class employees.
The kidnappings and killings of Iraqi citizens at the beginning of the popular protests from 10/1/2019 to 12/20/2019

With the continued demonstrations and sit-ins in Baghdad and other cities in Central and Southern Iraq, the continued blurring of the general political scene is underlined by the stigma when political authorities are involved.

According to field information of the Hammurabi Human Rights Organization, most of the kidnappings are carried out on the outskirts of the protest areas and sit-ins. There masked people driving modern four-wheel vehicles, kidnappings at street intersections or corners, and sometimes raids on homes. According to information received by HHRO, these kidnappings appear to target citizens of the protest and sit-in movement who have led and are still at the forefront of the popular demands scene and have polarizing leadership capabilities.

In addition to the kidnappings, attempts are made to discredit these people and spread rumors about them to cover up these crimes. The underlying thread is that the kidnappings are for criminal activity on the part of the kidnapped. It is noted that some arrests of activists are carried out in a kidnapping manner without an arrest warrant issued by judicial investigators for accusations of wrongdoing or crimes. The kidnappings included women and men, and have occurred in all provinces without exception, wherever sit-ins and demonstrations occurred, according to the information of HHRO.
Ibrahim Hussein, kidnapped and released / camera of Al-Sharqiya TV and the monitoring of Hammurabi.

Some of the kidnapped were released in mysterious ways, and some are still unaccounted for. According to information obtained by Hammurabi, unidentified bodies found during October and November of 2019, or received by the forensic departments in Baghdad and some provinces, were mostly of women.

After the increase of kidnappings of human rights activists, documented information indicated that some of them left Iraq to neighboring countries for fear for their lives. In this context, HHRO followed the story of Mrs. Zahra Jassim Al-Jubouri, who was threatened for her activity and expressing her opinion in criticizing some religious appearances and some government practices about religious presentation in a TV program on Alsumaria TV channel. These threats forced her to leave Iraq with her children, in search of protection, fearing for her life, and that of her children. Her family experienced chases and repeated threats to her life. We would also like to state that there is promotion of news about kidnappings of activists but confirmed that her family was not subjected to any kidnapping, as stated by them.

Among the recorded information obtained by the sources of Hammurabi Human Rights Organization, more than 32 kidnappings took place. A few of them are represented here:

- Maitham El-Helou, was kidnapped on October 7 and released on the 24th of the same month. He is a resident of Baghdad and a participant in the demonstrations.
- Saba al-Mahdawi, student of Medical College, was kidnapped on November two and released after ten days. She was known to provide first aid to the protesters in Tahrir Square, Baghdad.
Mary Muhammad, who was kidnapped on November 2019 and released after eleven days, was investigated for human rights activities and participation in the demonstrations in Baghdad.

Omar Kathem Katei, one of the protesters kidnapped on November 20 and released on the 28th of the same month in the Baghdad, and he is one of the protestors of Tahrir Square.

Abbas Yassin Kathem, a steadfast protester in Tahrir Square, and his fate is not known yet.

Saif Mohsen Abdel Hamid, whose family lost contact with on November 28, 2019, when he was in Tahrir Square, and his fate is not known yet.

Mustafa Munther Ali, kidnapped from the outskirts of Tahrir Square on November 15, after contact with his family, it was found that he was arrested by security services and imprisoned. HHRO does not know if he was released as part of the 2700 detainees who were released by the government authorities.

Sinan Adel Ibrahim, kidnapped in the fourth week of November 2019 and was participating in the demonstrations of Tahrir Square, whose fate is not known yet.

**Iraq required to fulfill its international commitments**

In a meeting of The United Nations Human Rights Council, demands were made that Iraq present its comprehensive periodic report in Geneva in November 2019, on the development of the human rights situation. The demand was for Iraq to stop using live weapons against protesters and to hold perpetrators of kidnappings and murders responsible for their actions against those who rightfully demand the most basic of human rights and the protection of Iraqis from attack.

The Council also recommended that Iraq ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, because it abolished the death sentence. However, it was not permitted for countries to make reservations allowing the use of the death penalty for the most serious crimes of a military nature committed during the war from July 2013. There were 144 parties who abstained from the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol, and Iraq is among those. Unfortunately, the intent to communicate the practice of the death sentence, with a legitimacy of the exceptional situation in which Iraq lives, of breaching the terrorism of ISIS. In one of the court hearings, the HHRO monitored ISIS members of different nationalities, as the court sentenced to death three French elements who were recruited into the Islamic State and carried out crimes of all kinds in Syria and Iraq. The abundance of evidence presented to the mentioned terrorists and their confessions led to the speedy issuance of death sentences in accordance with the Iraqi constitution and the anti-terrorism law, Article 4.

The first Optional Protocol establishes an individual complaints mechanism that allows individuals to file a complaint with the Human Rights Committee about
violations of the Covenant. This led to the creation of complex provisions on the interpretation and implementation of the Covenant.

- The list of international texts in this regard includes several. A list is provided:
  - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
  - The Standard Minimum Rules for the treatment of prisoners
  - The International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Optional Protocol thereto
  - Conventions and texts on women's rights, such as lifting reservations to an agreement to combat all forms of discrimination against women, CEDAW, and minorities
  - Agreements and texts related to freedom of movement and migration
  - The Arab Charter for Human Rights
  - Other international and regional texts that have become the norms of international law on human rights for states

It cannot renounce if its human rights record is to be clean in conformity with the international standards and obligations stipulated. Especially since the United Nations Human Rights Council has previously urged the Iraqi government to adapt its legislation and administrative, political, and economic approaches to ensure this commitment. These have been repeated in the recommendations addressed to Iraq during the universal periodic review of the Iraq report for the year 2014.

- Hammurabi Human Rights Organization consider that Iraq’s loss of its seat in the Human Rights Council is the result of what happened in terms of serious violations of human rights in many government practices. This includes the repressive measures of protesters and the use of excessive violence. This was marked by the intentional killing of protesters, according to what was stated in the report of the Investigative Committee of Government Demonstrations in that almost 70% of the fatal injuries were to the head and chest.
- Hammurabi Human Rights Organization considers the role of the United Nations Special Representative as weak in its primary role of protecting and caring for human rights in Iraq in the face of the grave violations that occurred. The actions included the suppression of demonstrations for the month of October 2019, despite issuing a statement on 10/26/2019, expressing deep concerns and regrets for the loss of life and of injuries.
- Hammurabi Human Rights Organization considers the mission of the UN representative in expressing concern and regret. It also includes providing advice and assistance to the government and people of Iraq within the overall political dialogue and national reconciliation,
assistance in the electoral process, planning for the national census, facilitating regional dialogue between Iraq and its neighbors, and strengthening protection of human rights, as well as judicial and legal reform. But the mission is by its nature as part of the representation of the international community. Mrs. Jeanine Plasschaert as Special Representative of UNAMI for Iraq, made an important moral step during her meeting with the protesters in Tahrir Square. In Iraq, more attention is given to support of the government than supporting and protecting the people, even if it is a step.

**Injustice continues in some official decisions**

Injustice remains real and has not been lifted from some families of martyrs and retired former ministers whose salaries have been canceled since 2015, with the excuse of supporting armed militias in the fight against ISIS. Their stolen rights have not been recovered. There are varying proportions of salary loss among them, with some whose salary has been reduced to about 80% and some whose salary has been zeroed due to the lack of employment. This is related to a new law, called the “Unified Retirement Law.” A great deal of injustice occurred to this segment of retirees assigned to serve the state as ministers, not as employees. This included applying the gradient to those from the lowest levels of employment to those at higher levels of employment. Treating minister’s as employee’s bears a clear violation of the minister’s right and the cancellation of his classification, there is a clear injustice targeting a number of former ministers who have fallen victim to political conflicts between the various blocs and influential political figures who considered these unjust mistakes. It has been termed “reform.” These retirees obtained their rights in accordance with the law, in its framework and as is the global context as an entitlement to tasks that affected their lives and the lives of their families.

As for the opposite, it became clear that violations of laws by decision-makers through their various departments and manipulation according to the whims of certain people were legitimized from mid-2005 forward. This exposed the former ministers to many dangers, including becoming terrorist targets. Whereas corruption of state budgets became evident, yet those involved are protected despite their violations in they that have been placed above the law.

As for punishment, it remains the share of those who respect the law and the poor. Despite many reviews, some of the families of the martyrs continue to live in injustice because all their dues have not been paid since their migration from Baghdad to Dohuk. The employees on both sides continue to manipulate the salary of the martyr, which is now supposed to be one million and two hundred dinars, and in fact, the martyr’s received only 360,000 dinars. They have fallen victim to political conflicts between the governments of Baghdad and Erbil,
where each blames the other. With all these violations, which are administrative crimes, how can we hope for the success of the state in rebuilding itself?

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization urges its demand to restore the pension rights of all martyrs, retired, and employees, including former ministers. The organization also urges for the restoration of their privacy as a commissioning service, by employing them the same as all previous ministers across the world and restoring all their rights.

On the level of fighting corruption, the government position remains ambiguous, and the procedures are slow, while the Integrity Commission says it has completed many files and transferred some to the judiciary. There are political disputes about lifting the immunity of deputies accused of corruption cases, while the commission has established measures to isolate more than 1,000 accused employees with multiple corruption cases. Hammurabi believes that the mechanisms used so far in addressing corruption are still ineffective and target only the category of small State employees. The HHRO is also surprised at the suspension of the work of the Central Court of Corruption after making bold decisions to recruit and prosecute the President of the Martyrs Foundation (Najiha Abdel Amir al-Shammari) and the former Salah al-Din Governor, as well as the current member of Parliament Ahmad al-Juburi (Abu Mazen), due to clear corruption. HHRO followed this with the revelation that the President and members of the Court were subjected to pressures from their auditors for carrying out professional justice. Therefore, the court was dissolved, after which Hammurabi discovered that the president of the court was transferred to Mosul to manage the Customs Courts there. The president of the court concerned with this matter, given his competence, was previously assigned by the Supreme Judicial Council to chair the Special Court to try ISIS terrorists.

HHRO noticed with great interest the anger of the citizens in Baghdad due to the blocking of social media (Facebook, Twitter and other applications) and the difficulty of accessing the internet, in addition to the closure of a number of streets near the Green Zone. In addition, the interruption of traffic on Al-Jumhuriya and Sinak bridges in Baghdad greatly affected the movement of citizens. The organization has noted that many families have bought more food and household necessities than necessary due to rumors that the government may impose curfew orders.

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization consider what came in the interpretation of the Federal Court issued on 10/14/2019, regarding the unconstitutionality of Legislative Decree No. 44 of 2008, passed by the House of Representatives and ratified by the Presidency Council at that time and published in the Iraqi newspaper No. 4102 issued on 12/24/2008. This was considered a bold sign and a qualitative transition in the work of the Federal Court, whose decisions are bound to limit quotas and achieve justice. However,
at the same time, it records its reservation regarding the late response to the unconstitutionality of the decision, which took more than ten years since its issuance, and the societal, financial, and security damage it caused throughout.

**Conditions of Minorities**

In recent years, there has been a frequent violation of Christian symbols in the Kurdistan region in shops, including Maxi Mall, which displays shoes bearing the image of a cross, the holiest Christian symbol. It was also revealed that the origin was Turkish and that the same shop was doing business in Christian areas as a provocation. This shop had done the same thing years ago in the Ankawa district and was punished by security services in the Iraqi Kurdistan region (Asayish). This caused a great anger among the people of Ankawa. In 2019, this horrible act was repeated by Mega Mall, from the same Turkish origin, which means that there is no serious punishment for traders and foreign goods bent on destabilization of Iraqi unity. This lack of action further damages confidence between citizens and authorities. This provocative act does not differ much from ISIS's actions that non-Muslim societies have met, such as Christians, Ezidies, and Mandaeans Sabean. We call on the authorities in Baghdad and Erbil to approach the Turkish authorities to disallow this industry behavior of misuse of the symbols and beliefs of Christians or other religions in Iraq. Furthermore, we call for an end to allowing them to escape punishment for this undermining of Iraqi unity. Allowing it to continue represents a blatant interference in Iraqi affairs.

![Image of shoes with cross symbol](image)

Turkish goods sold in Ankawa and Erbil to offend Christianity.
The Christian presence in Iraq dates back about 2000 years, where they played and continue to play an important role in building their homeland. The historical features of this fact are seen in the remains of stone and marble walls. Christians have long been persecuted and even exterminated, especially by the Ottoman authorities and their allies in the Sevo and Safar Barlek massacres. These systematic persecutions will remain a disgrace in their history against the descendants of Mesopotamia who accepted Christianity centuries before they existed as a nation.

Hammurabi listened to the guard of the archaeological site, about the remains of the first church erected by the disciples of Christ, when they preached in Iraq in the first years of Christianity. The monuments of the Church of Kokhi near Salman pack southern Baghdad near Kisra Palace in Madaen/Camera of Hammurabi Human Rights Organization.
The Church of Kokhi sees how they prevented a foreign tourist from taking stones from an art piece of the cross carved in stone, on display at the Iraqi Museum in Baghdad was found with more than one similar object in the monuments of churches and monasteries in the Al-Hirah region (Najaf and Karbala today). Al-Hirah represents one of the first ancient Christian cities completely covered in dust 1400 years ago.

This is the way its people were abandoned and destroyed from their roots in the cultural and authentic southern regions. Today, the churches in Mosul are still under the rubble, where ISIS completely destroyed all churches and defiled them, to leave bloody memories in the hearts of Christians of Mosul. Christians have no trust and fear a genocide. The ISIS campaigns have targeted and robbed them of all they value, forcibly displace them, and also the kidnapping daughters and women.

Finally, after the liberation of the city of Mosul, a new way of abuse and blatant violation began in the bulldozing of the remains of ancient and archaeological churches to destroy their history and valuable icons, inscriptions, decorations, and even the graves of clergymen who served their homeland. On 1/16/2019, the British company, GX4, approved by the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, removed the projectiles and mines from the ancient city of Mosul, bulldozing the two "old churches," the Virgin Mary, which is one of the most ancient churches that dated back 800 years. Known to Muslims in Mosul as they visit with the rest of the components of Nineveh to receive blessings, and the new Church of Tahra, which is called the Church of the “Al-Qalaa,” adjacent to the archaeological church, whose history dates back to the nineteenth
century and is 200 years old. The walls of the two Mosul churches were completely destroyed after the devastation caused by ISIS.

Tombs of the bishops buried excavated
As for their representation in the Legislative Council, it does not rise to the level of national responsibility. The number of Christians has been greatly restricted during the last 17 years. This has become a dangerous indicator, threatening their historical presence in their homeland, Iraq. Their numbers were over a million and a half, but have decreased to less than 500,000 people. After 2003, Christians faced the worst of the killing, forced displacement, and kidnapping in most cities and towns. By describing themselves as “Christian representatives,” the council does nothing for their communities, and on the contrary, they began to perpetuate corruption and attacks to keep the powerful positions.

Thus, the confidence of the minorities in most of the authorities was lost, which led them to emigrate, including through deadly roads, in the seas, and the long suffering in the countries of temporary residence.

The legacy of this violence that produced ISIS remains ingrained in many Iraqi minds. Because of the religious differences, the origin of Iraq is targeted through the use of many legal means to penetrate into Iraqi society, and within this framework:

- Hammurabi Human Rights Organization has a lot of information about the delay in issuing laws that guarantee protection for the rights of religious minorities. In spite of the strides made by the organization in dealing with Article 26, second of the Unified National Card Law, which stipulates the Islamization of the children of non-Muslims in the event that one of the parents becomes Muslim, father or mother. This article has caused great problems, especially for young Christian men and women, as they found themselves forced to be Muslims without any right to choose or legitimize defense of their convictions. Unjustly and forcibly, discriminatory concepts were imposed on them, and they were issued with civil status identities in which they are converted to Islam. It is said that this principle is from Islamic law, which causes them to lose their hopes of the slightest respect for their privacy and their religious freedom. The result is more immigration outside of Iraq. In all of her reports, Hammurabi explains that this is the first and primary reason for the devastating migration, and the first steps to end the Christian presence in Iraq whose first strands were woven since the 1960s to disperse across the world. Duplication in the Iraqi political, legislative and administrative mentality precludes the search for rational solutions.

- In the hope of making needed amendments, HHRO will repeat its recommendation and demand that children remain on their religion until they reach the age of majority when they may be asked about the religion they wish to belong to. The recommendation of Hammurabi Human Rights Organization came after a series of seminars, dialogue sessions, and meetings with judges, lawyers, and human rights activists and with
Hammurabi Organization for Human Rights

the Human Rights Committee in the House of Representatives. HHRO noted that developing a fundamental solution to this issue represents one of the measures required to safeguard the right to religious freedom for non-Muslim Iraqis. In line with what is stated in the Iraqi constitution, from articles that guarantee the rights of all Iraqis to equality under the law, this respects the privacy of the non-Muslim components that are protected by the same constitution on the one hand, and international texts on human rights on the other.

- This recommendation still has not been heard from any Iraqi authority. This does not mean that the organization neglects its claims. Rather, it continues with determination to stress the importance of respecting religious freedoms because it is the main entry point to protect the minorities and thus the stability of Iraq.

- As for the property of non-Muslim Iraqis, there are many issues that are still pending before the Iraqi judiciary, for illegal buying and selling, appropriation, threatening and extortion, which not been resolved yet. HHRO has contacted the Supreme Judicial Council on these issues. As for a remarkable positive development, it is the Ministry of Justice’s decision to prohibit the sale of real estate to non-Muslim Iraqis except in the presence of the legal owners. A fact to note here is that there were judicial decisions taken in favor of Christians whose homes and properties were seized, as happened in Mosul. The security force to protect Mosul had immediately evacuated the aggressors in response to the complaints of the owners through HHRO. Nevertheless, in many situations in Baghdad, the responsible security authorities are disclaiming the implementation of these judicial rulings, despite many appeals for the implementation of judicial decisions in this regard. And what happened to overrun the Somer Family Club, which is run by Christians, is the biggest witness to the power of Mafia corruption to overtake and influence the decisions of the administration and the judiciary in their favor. The club was seized, even though it had been leased since the period of the previous dictatorial regime, and according to what they told the organization, the lessors committed to pay the rents duly. However, the Municipality of Baghdad has given its land, contrary to law, for investment, in coordination and cooperation with the Baghdad Investment Commission. Hammurabi believes that the process is marred by corruption deals, influences and significant pressures on the administration and law enforcement agencies.

- With regard to the minorities of the displaced, especially the forcibly displaced Christians and Yezidis, who returned still complain of the lack
of services and security concerns, as well as a delay and a failure in the compensatory procedures for the rewarding property and rights that they lost. In return, there are camps for the displaced minorities that still include the displaced, especially in Erbil, Dohuk, Sulaymaniyah, the outskirts of Baghdad, Karbala, Najaf, and Diwaniya. They did not have the necessary opportunities for their return, while there are many reasons for their survival, most of which relate to the lack of positive factors for their return, in a way that guarantees their security and the restoration of their rights.

- Also, especially among minority women, a growing sense of distrust and personal insecurity for them and families in their areas is due to the political chaos that took safety and stability from Iraqis in an indescribable way, especially from women of minority as thousands of Christian families migrated abroad and undermined confidence in the possibility of stability under unsecured conditions, due to the use of their areas to perpetuate crises among politicians who witnessed a catastrophic failure to protect them. Without any doubt, the authorities of the central government, as well as authorities of the region (Kurdistan Region of Iraq), bear full security responsibility.
Compensation and transitional justice

Residents of the liberated areas did not receive fair compensation for their loss regarding forceable displacement during the invasion of ISIS, although the Ministry of Migration and Displaced adopted a compensatory policy in granting each displaced family one million dinars. Such compensation does not satisfy the growing need of these Iraqis and what they have been exposed to from the tragedies. Many of them are still in camps of displacement and migration, and they cannot return to their destroyed homes, as they are not suitable for housing or shelter. Also, others preferred to remain in the displacement camps after arranging their economic and social conditions in these camps. HHRO can confirm that the lack of decisive policies that lead to the closure of the issue of displacement and immigration, stands behind all the negative phenomena that have affected Iraqi citizens whose rights have been tragically violated. The organization also noted that the failure to achieve transitional justice in withholding punishment of those responsible for flagrant violations of human rights, chief among which is the ISIS excess of the Iraqi borders. The violation of its sovereignty, in addition to the lack of remunerative financial compensation, is still not subject to expert and continuous mechanisms, which perpetuated the phenomenon of poor integration between those societies. Hammurabi asks if this issue will become a priority for the ruling authorities.

Christian survivors under ISIS

In the framework of Hammurabi’s follow-up of the issue of survivors, both men and women, of the injustice and violent acts of ISIS, the organization recorded in its reports more than 330 Christian survivors in 2015, 2016 and 2017, who were victims of ISIS violence. This matter did not attract the attention of the authorities, generating disappointment for many of the victims, so they chose to migrate to different countries to restore their dignity. Most of them are from Mosul and the Nineveh Plain.
These victims include Christians who were not eligible for compensation and support for survivors of ISIS persecution until now, and who stayed for three years under the influence of ISIS. There are children, girls, and women, and even men, who were subjected to sexual abuse, rape, physical and psychological torture. For three years, under the rule of ISIS, they were traded in the slave markets in Mosul, Al-Raqqa, and others, and in many Syrian towns and villages under the control of ISIS.

Here it must be noted that some of the testimonies that Yezidis and Christian survivors provided to Hammurabi during their interview on the cases and conditions of women and girls are not fully known even after the liberation of the regions. The reason is that most of the survivors witnessed the presence of the two sisters Marina (20 years old) and Marita (15 years old) and Athra (about 60 years old) in captivity with ISIS. However, their status remains unknown even after the liberation and the end of ISIS in Iraq and Syria.

**Economic conditions in the most damaging regions of ISIS**

- The villages and towns of the Nineveh Plain were home to thousands of Iraqis but now resemble a barren land after the prevention of Arab inhabitants from returning home after displacement, especially Arab villages in Nineveh bordering the Kurdistan region. Hammurabi met residents of Khazir camp, who said that groups of Peshmerga displaced them from these villages and did not allow them to return home.

- Despite what is known about service and development projects, some of which have been completed, and others that are in progress, the economic reality is still governed by the phenomena of delay, negligence, and procrastination. The reasons are numerous, including administrative and political corruption, as well as the delay of public budgets and the absence of executive mechanisms that consider the size of the financial costs allocated for many projects.
The Iraqi economic situation also governs the mechanisms of selling contracts from one contractor to another, and the withdrawal of companies after receiving advances. The courts are still considering accusations of contractors and investors who have broken their pledges and stalled business that they are supposed to complete based on specific timelines. The suffering of the liberated areas continues, especially in the provinces of Nineveh, Salah al-Din, Diyala and Anbar. In these locations, the necessary measures to restore infrastructure and implement productive development projects have not yet been witnessed. In this context, the Iraqi economic situation, despite the media titles proposed for reform, the administrative bureaucracy still rules many discretionary means that are unable to meet the needs of the citizens. Among known issues are the delay in providing electricity and drinking water services, as well as the lack of paved roads and weak development opportunities in remote areas.

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization surveyed the opinions of Iraqi experts, and field visits by delegations representing the organization. The findings showed that the main reasons for concern is the weak economic structure in these regions, represented by the decline of agricultural lands, the water scarcity, and, consequently, the spread of unemployment.

As for corruption, the mechanisms adopted by the Commission of Integrity, by preparing files for corruption among politicians and parties, to recover large sums after the disclosure of these files. In some terms, the existence of serious corruption will require a radical change in the general government approach to its disclosure.

The poor economic conditions that prevail in Iraq, now have necessarily exacerbated poverty, destitution, injustice, and the inequality of certain provinces. The worst of all Iraq's provinces in terms of declining development activities and high unemployment rates, are Nineveh, Salahuddin, Diyala, etc.

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization also believes that another reason for the Iraqi economic recession is closely related to the antagonism between the directions of the Federal Government and the Kurdistan Regional Government in Iraq. There are not yet clear lines of relationship between the two parties with regard to border trade, production, and marketing of oil, as well as the extension of the authority of Iraq’s general law on the financial and economic assets in the Kurdistan region. There are mutual accusations between them towards
Hammurabi Organization for Human Rights

more than one economic situation, some of which are related to the presence of "space" employees, and that many economic activities in the region are not subject to the control of the Federal Government. Also, according to the statements of food traders in the Kurdistan region of Iraq, these suffer from obstacles that prevent the import of Iraqi foodstuffs such as vegetables, fruits, dairy products, dates, and citrus fruits from Diyala, from the south, and other regions.

- Farmers in the mountains of the Kurdistan region suffer from these barriers because they cannot export their products to Baghdad and the rest of the south. The product has remained on trees and under the snow, since the 1990s. This is also one of the factors that contributed to the immigration of thousands of Christians from villages in the region, with the only sources of their livelihood, agriculture, being challenged by illegal trade from neighboring countries interfering in the affairs of Iraq at the behest of Iraqi authorities loyal to them.

- Hammurabi Human Rights Organization believes that instability is one of the main reasons for the default and developmental delay. The concern is the presence of the political approach in maintaining the general government position regarding maintaining the Supreme Investment Authority or establishing a reconstruction council by the government along the lines of what prevailed in the Royal Era. Foreign companies and enterprises export their goods to Iraq, in the industrial and agricultural sectors on a large scale

- In general, the size of investment undertaken by the private sector is still very poor, and the Ministry of Industry has lists of hundreds of private factories that have stopped, as well as government factories, which led to a large imbalance of exports and imports in favor of imported goods.
According to experts, which have assured the HHRO, the problem lies in the failure to make a political decision based on the activation of national industries instead of relying on foreign goods. Furthermore, these experts revealed to HHRO that politicians receive certain financial commissions in exchange for permitting these activities.

With the spread of many fake goods, including radioactive materials such as fertilizers and spoiled food, in the Iraqi markets, the Ministry of Health reveals from time to time bad or expired goods. According to official documents revealed to Hammurabi, disclosing that the analytical laboratory examination of goods entering Iraq is not obligatory, but rather to satisfy a theoretical examination.

Regarding unemployment, Hammurabi Human Rights Organization has more information on the existence of incorrect mechanisms in employment and obtaining job opportunities. For example, there are many university graduates, especially those holding a Bachelor, Master’s, and Doctoral degree, who are still unemployed. Information received includes graduates of colleges of medicine that for the past year did not receive employment opportunities, despite a general government decision to absorb the graduates of all kinds of medical colleges.
• Information on the phenomenon of unemployment in Iraq indicates that there is a clear and painful disparity between the opportunities of employment between women and men for the benefit of males. It appears from reading some tables that the unemployment rate in Iraq ranges between 23 and 40 percent for men, while the percentage among women rises to more than 60 percent. Most of the provinces affected by unemployment are Al-Muthanna, which is still the poorest according to the classification of the Ministry of Planning. Also, the intensity of unemployment is escalating in the Nineveh Plain among women, which has made many returnees dependent on humanitarian relief to meet the needs of their children.
Conditions in Tribal Areas

Field information obtained by Hammurabi Human Rights Organization shows that backwardness in general still dominates the tribal relations between inhabitants of most tribes. In fact, it comes in the non-application of the laws of the Iraqi state decisively between the litigants, and HHRO noted that the well-known title (wanted by tribes) always comes at the expense of the natural address (wanted under penalty of law). In this context, many victims fell in tribal areas due to the rise in those rivalries and the use of weapons. While law enforcement agencies, such as the police and other official security agencies, must interfere to prevent these rivalries and separate the litigants according to laws in effect through local courts. Hammurabi Human Rights Organization also noted that doctors, engineers, judges, teachers, security officials, agricultural and medical personnel were subjected to tribal harassment and threatened against the state laws.

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization believes that the lack of police stations in the rural areas, favoritism, and alignment with various tribes receive special dispensation, as well as a departure from the laws of the Iraqi state because they are backed by specific political parties.

In the Province of Nineveh

Yezidi citizens confirmed to the TV channel "Yezidis 24," the death of two young Yezidis at dawn on Sunday 9/6/2019, during their support of the people of the region and farmers in extinguishing the fires that broke out in agricultural lands in the village of Khazouka, within the district of Sinjar in the northwest of Nineveh province in northern Iraq.

Shehab Khudaida, a Yezidi citizen from Sinjar, said to "Yezidis 24" television, that, "Major fires have broken out in several different regions since Saturday 8/6/2019 at about eleven pm and continued for hours till the dawn of Sunday 9/6/2019. The farmers, the families, and the two young men, Barzan Omar Kabaoao and Saeed Sabri, put out the fire and blocked the road in front of the fire but died as a result.

Another source said to “Yezidis 24,” that the fire started from several directions in the village of Khazouka, passing through the lands of the "Hattin" compound, to pose a great danger to the people in the area. The people worked to avoid the danger to the families and livestock, but they were unable to control the fires, which caused great human and material losses.

Khudaida stressed that "the people of the villages, the farmers and the civil defense tried to extinguish the fire but were unable to control it due to strong
winds and other large-scale fires in villages and other fields, which made families and farmers in these areas feel very afraid."

The fires erupted in several villages and compounds in the Sinjar district on Saturday, 8/6/2019. Thousands of dunams of agricultural land were destroyed. The cause of these fires is unknown.

Mr. Edris Bashar Sello said, "A mass grave was burnt down in the village of Kuju, on Tuesday 11/06/2019," after a fire broke out in the village. Edris is a resident of Kuju village in Sinjar, who survived miraculously from a mass grave on 08/15/2014. During that event, he was shot and wounded six times by ISIS. He said that the mass grave contained the remains of more than 60 Yezidis. It was completely burned during the fire that also took many agricultural crops in the area.

Regarding the areas of the Nineveh Plain, the security situation was characterized by some stability and relative calm in 2019 but was not enough to achieve social stability and economic growth. Hundreds of Christian families who were displaced before ISIS entered the regions on 6/8/2014 and now live in areas in the provinces of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, unable to return to their villages. This is due to the presence of security tensions in the Nineveh Plain between the Popular Mobilization Units holding the security file and the Kurdish forces that still control large parts of the Nineveh Plain regions, especially in Telkif and Al-Hamdaniya districts.

The challenges and problems that hinder social stability in the regions of the Nineveh Plain regions are:

1. The demographic change that occurred before 2003 due to the policies of dictatorship, as well as what occurred after 2003 as a result of the displacement of hundreds of families of Shabak from the city of Mosul to the areas of the Nineveh Plain and specifically to the center of Bartella, of Christian majority.
2. The absence of a relatively unified political will regarding the creation of administrative units or municipal departments in the Nineveh Plain regions for the rest of components, including Shabak, Yezidis, and Kakais.
3. The negative differentiation between the numbers of crowds and the type of their weapons for the components of the Nineveh Plain as the number of Shabak exceeds twice the number of all of the Nineveh Plain. This creates an imbalance of forces, and therefore the region faces the risk of future instability.
4. Limitation of religious practices in the Nineveh Plain especially for the Shabak.
The security forces in the Nineveh Plain consist mostly of the Popular Mobilization Units of the Brigade, 30 Al-Shabak, the 13th Regiment of the Nineveh Plain forces for the Christians, and 50 Babylonian forces stationed in the district of Telkif. The security force includes a small number of local police, and the army does not exist in the villages and towns of the Nineveh Plain, except in the joint control of the road linking Erbil and Mosul. The logistics and military performance of these forces does not ensure safety, including components of the Nineveh Plain, because of lack of experience, belief, and loyalty to the homeland. Most loyalty is known to be to people and parties, although it is covered by the state. Still, it is understood by the people of those areas as a concern and not a stability.

Therefore, fear remains, including those related to the ongoing conflict between the governments of Baghdad and Erbil regarding the ownership of the Nineveh Plain regions, which were called “the disputed areas.” Likewise, the presence of thousands of ISIS families confined in the displacement camps in the Nineveh Plain, in addition to the bad economic conditions in Nineveh Province, could result in activities of sleeper cells. This includes what is happening today, in the areas of southern and western Mosul, and it may withdraw to areas of the Nineveh Plain, in light of the conflict between Baghdad and Erbil over the lands of this region, owned only by its indigenous people.

Minorities in the Nineveh Plain, have lost confidence in the government forces of Baghdad and Erbil, especially after the illegal and amoral withdrawals in Sinjar and the Nineveh Plain in 2014, leaving the Christians and Yezidis to ISIS under oppression. The Popular Mobilization Units forces that were formed to support the liberation of these areas from ISIS, are also of sectarian loyalties and have different agendas, and therefore we recommend the following:

- Merge the crowds of minorities and link them to the Iraqi army system, provided that its strength is composed of officers and ranks from members of minorities and in balance. Also, that the Federal Government funds and trains them to maintain security in the Nineveh Plain regions, and that these areas be placed under international supervision for at least ten years.
- After losing more than 50% of its most important Christian component, the Nineveh Plain is in danger due to the loss of a qualitative component that had a reforming effect on the economic reality at the governorate and national level by supplying the Iraqi community with hundreds of its human resources. These resources included doctors, engineers, archaeologists, teaching staff, university professors, army officers, and educators, including teachers, and other scientific competencies.
- As for the economic situation, the Nineveh Province unemployment and the poverty rate exceed 50%. The rates of destruction of infrastructure for projects and housing units reach the general average of 40% and is increasing as the situation continues to worsen. The weak support and performance of the federal and local governments in the province, and
the widespread financial and administrative corruption prevalent in the province, make it difficult for economic stability. In addition to the security situation that is controlled and dominated by the Popular Mobilization Units, the province is in need of a special support fund, and it may need a period of ten years for the situation to reach the stage of real development. Without this, it could push the current economic situation to a second migration and the return of extremist terrorism again.

- Unemployment has become a negative and dangerous phenomenon in Iraq in general and in the Nineveh Province specifically. The unemployment rate in Mosul is the highest in proportion of other provinces of Iraq for many reasons, including ISIS control for a period of three years, where many suffered from the scourge and destruction of infrastructure. It led to a decline in work in the agricultural and industrial sectors. The war also left many unemployment and in social destitution related to weak allocations in dealing with poverty in the governorate. Therefore, many societal diseases such as begging, gambling, and addiction, and even including moral deviations have spread.

- Therefore, there is a great need for economic investment projects in each of the tourism, industrial, and agricultural sectors, and it is the only way to recover the province, which has been struck by economic recession. Investment projects will create job opportunities for the people of the province, which has many investment opportunities.

- As for the performance of the local province in Nineveh, it is low and was not commiserate with the needs in the political atmosphere of the province. Just as it was before ISIS, it is subjected to the influence of ideological and geopolitical conflicts between the Arab Islamic parties and the Kurdish Nationalist parties. The situation has become more difficult with the presence of a new political factors affecting the struggle of those wills. It is by the Popular Mobilization Units and their influential offices that have been defeated after liberation of the governorate and its impact on political decision-making. Therefore, there is doubt that it is possible to count on the improved political performance of the Nineveh government in fulfilling its required role.

- Immigration is increasing at the Nineveh Plain today, so the advancement of economic reality is not possible with a province that does not have vision and does not appear to have a will to preserve diversity and protect it from disappearing.

We consider solutions as follows:

- The allocation of a special fund for the reconstruction of the Nineveh Plain regions, with the participation of the United Nations, and the assignment of minorities to manage it.
Hammurabi Organization for Human Rights

- Paying attention to the agricultural structure with its two parts, planting, and animal management, as it has a major impact in promoting development, eliminating unemployment, and achieving stability.
- Investment promotion in the Nineveh Plain.
- Supporting the educational sector.

The infrastructure was badly affected during the fall of the region to ISIS as well as during the liberation operations in 2016, so our assessment of the service situation now and after reforming is acceptable. This is marked as such because the infrastructure of most schools in the Nineveh Plain has been restored and this is a good factor for re-education in all stages. The infrastructure of the water network projects has been restored in many areas of the Plain and work is still ongoing to restore the rest to service. Municipal services today have returned after being equipped with specialized mechanisms from international organizations and support of local governments.

The electricity sector witnessed an improvement in the quality of electricity. But there is a great need to improve service in all these facilities to better levels. Financial resources are needed from the Federal Government because the allocations granted at the present time to these regions do not cover even 10% of the need. In addition, most of the internal roads in cities and outlying areas need paving. Road lighting, traffic lights, and the external roads that link the villages of the Nineveh Plain also need attention.

We conclude that all cities and towns of the Nineveh Plain are in need of services as they are stricken areas and some are destroyed, but those most in need of services are Hamdaniya district center, Telkif and Batnaya, and most of the villages of Shabak, the Kakai, Turkmen, and Christian communities, as these villages have lack of current municipal services. This is due to lack of administrative development, and also requires raising many of them from a village to a municipal department or a district center.

**Weak return of Yezidis and Christians to their areas of origin**

Return mechanisms are very weak and will not encourage many displaced families to return from Sinjar, especially to the Yezidis.

This is because the state has not provided clear mechanisms or policies to support return. There were lags in employing important actions that fulfill the encouragement of the displaced to return to their areas. Examples are helping to restore and rehabilitate the destroyed homes, compensation of victims, restoration of loss, and even protection. Therefore, many of them remain in their areas of displacement, in addition to the migration of more than 40% of them outside Iraq, especially Christians and Yezidis.
Hammurabi, with the support of the International Christian Solidarity, distributes winter clothing to Yezidi children who have survived ISIS terrorism.

The support of the return achieved to date exceeds the grant of 1,500,000 dinars, and the beneficiaries of the returnees to date are minimal (dozens) in relation to the thousands of returning families. Compensation for the damages caused by ISIS and the military operation of their homes, possessions and furniture is still in the initial stages, and is running unreasonably slowly. This is likely due to it being one committee at the governorate level.

Therefore, there are still many people in the displacement camps, and the reason is the lack of a unified national vision to return them to their areas and villages. The reasons include societal as well as political, and in some instances, opportunity because of the loss of many family members.

Therefore, there should be a national will and a solid plan in this regard to prepare alternatives to preserve the dignity of the displaced, with adequate financial allocations and international monitoring in this regard. As for the conditions of the disappeared, HHRO has information about several forcibly disappeared Christians from ISIS, which was included in the reports issued during the years 2015/2016/2017, as their status remains unknown.

It should be noted that perhaps ISIS maintains several absentees to bargain with them. Khudaydah, the district of al-Hamdaniya, suffers the most in the number of disappeared. The center of Nineveh Governorate (Mosul), and the villages of southern Mosul (in the direction of Hammam and Shura), had only a small number of survivors return of absent citizens in the Nineveh Plain.

Concerning mass graves, most of them are found in the area of Sinjar, with more than 75 cemeteries, about 17 of which were opened in villages (Kuju, Sallaweg and other Yezidi villages in Sinjar), as well as in the center and outside of Mosul city in the area of Khusfa.
As for political relations between the social components, they are subjected to the effects of the Arab-Kurdish conflict on the Nineveh Plain regions. The demographic change occurred after 2003, near Bartella and the complete acquisition by Shabak of the security and economic joints in the Nineveh Plain, and the fear of making the Plain a focal point of Iranian influence in Nineveh. In parallel, and because of the uncertainty that prevails in the political situation of the Plain and Mosul, people are filled with distrust. The concern for all Iraqis is at the national level, noting that Shiite religious parties control the points of the Federal Government in cooperation with the Kurdish nationalist parties. While Sunni Arab parties suffer defections and penetration in its ranks, minorities no longer have a fixed point at the national level. In this context, the risks threatening the social fabric are more migration, internal fighting, and social disintegration between Iraqi components in general and the Shabak and Christians in particular, in the regions of the Nineveh Plain.

**New statistics on the Yezidis victims of ISIS crimes**

The Office of Yezidi Kidnapping, a non-governmental organization, revealed a new statistic for ISIS ‘crimes’ against Yezidis since the beginning of August 2014.

The office stated that, "The number of people killed in the first days of the ISIS attack on the Yezidis reached 1293 people, and 2745 orphans.” The statement added that, "The number of mass graves discovered in Sinjar so far, has reached 81, in addition to tens of individual graves sites,” pointing out that, “68 religious shrines of the Yezidis were bombed during the attacks."

The estimated statistic revealed the number of Yezidis migrated, at more than 100,000, and confirmed the kidnapping of more than 6417 people, including 3548 female, and 2869 male.

According to the statistics the total number of ISIS survivors, reached 3530 people, the number of women who survived ISIS was 1199, and men numbered 339, and the female children were 1041, and 951 male children. The statement pointed out that, “There are 2887 Yezidis kidnapped by “ISIS,” so far, with 1308 female and 1579 male.”

The Yezidis were subjected to the worst massacres when ISIS invaded Shankal (Sinjar) in the summer of 2014, causing hundreds of thousands to flee to the Kurdistan region while others were stranded.

Thousands of Yezidi women were killed and abused when taken away by ISIS. They were sold in the slave markets of Raqqa, Mosul, and Tal Afar, and the fate of half of them remains unknown. Recently, Hammurabi Human Rights Organization met several Yezidis with their children, and some without children, young men, and women in the Dawoodiya complex of returnees from Syria,
Hammurabi Organization for Human Rights

where it recorded flagrant violations by ISIS. The violations included torture, insults, forced Islam, sexual slavery, and trafficking. Their experiences are heartbreaking.

Mother of three children who was sexually enslaved in front of her children, her husband killed since their first captivity from Sinjar in 2014, and they were kidnapped to Syria.

In the photos above and below, an 11-year-old Yezidi child, was captured by ISIS and taken to Syria. He survived, thanks to his uncle. He is now 16 years old and all his family were killed in front of him. He is the only one remaining. Mrs. Pascale, the Chairwoman of the organization met him personally, recorded and documented the effects of the fractures of the bone and teeth, as well as the signs of torture on his body. ISIS brutally tortured him because of his refusing Islamization. He needed official documents as well as physical and psychological treatment. He remembers the torture, rape, and inhumane treatment.

Government statistics on Yezidi survivors show that they are identical to the statistics monitored by HHRO and Yezidi partner organizations.
The reality of services in the Nineveh Plain region

Hammurabi noted relative improvement in certain areas, but slow response in others. In the field, the organization followed the reality of services in the Nineveh Plain area and concluded the following diagnoses:

- Progress in services depends on the amounts allocated for the development of any area. Work is under way to improve services in the Bartella district. Improvement in services was noted over the past year. However, regarding water supply, insufficient quantities of water are pumped from the project (Salamiya Project), a number of wells were dug for the purpose of increasing the quantities of water processed to the area due to the double increase in the population of the area, and to an increase in the number of newly developed housing complexes. It was noted that there was a change in water quality and that some wells were shut down for poor water quality. The water of the river (the project) is still mixed with the water of the wells and provided to the citizens.

- As for the health field in the Nineveh Plain, government interest in the subject of medical supplies is still weak.

- In the field of electricity, there is a clear improvement in the hours of supplying electricity for the past year. Also, Hammurabi Human Rights Organization, in cooperation with the Central Agency for Development through Comenex, carried out a lighting project for the Hamdaniya District Center and the Karamles district by providing 1500 light components with a power of 100 watts.

- Regarding the roads and streets, there is no clear interest in this area, and the reason is due to the sewage project in Bartella and Hamdaniya, which had affected the development of road projects within these areas. Hammurabi Human Rights Organization, based on its goals to achieve social security and stability in the Nineveh Plain after liberating from ISIS is involved in a road safety project, through the support of the US Agency for Development. In Hamdaniya District Center and the Karamles district, the road safety project includes the installation of 180 traffic signs with the installation of 435 traffic bumps to regulate traffic and reduce accidents.
In the field of education, the lack of educational cadres and the inefficiency of existing ones are still a reason for the deterioration of the educational reality in these areas.

As for housing and the reconstruction of what ISIS destroyed, there is no state in this area, due to paralysis on the part of the state. Usually, the restoration is done by civil society organizations and the activities of the church’s presence there. HHRO carried out the reconstruction of 70 homes in Qaraqosh, Karamles, Bartella and two in Mosul, in cooperation with international partner organizations, to encourage the return of the displaced to their areas and to restore confidence.

The development of services depends on the financial allocations for each region and the problem is solved by increasing the financial allocations for these regions by the government. In these contexts, there are continuous demands by the district and sub-district council of the Nineveh Plain regions regarding the implementation of service projects. There are efforts made by them for the purpose of obtaining financial allocations for the implementation of these projects, and it was noted that recently there has been development taking place in the field of implementing water and road projects.

**Proposal**

Given that the country is going through or rather intends to go through the reconstruction and rebuilding of the infrastructures stage, we suggest that the
committees supervising the construction include specialized engineers, in construction and reconstruction.

The duties of the engineers with respect to their specialties will ensure the implementation of construction and reconstruction projects within the required specifications. This should include significant numbers of engineers, but it is noted that there are committees supervising projects free of any specialized engineer. It is urged that organizations working in the field of construction bring in supervisors specializing in the field of construction, and not rely on people who are not specialists.

There is a movement of action in all regions, especially those under the control of the municipality. As for the areas outside the municipality, it is certain that the provision of services in them is below the required level. Therefore, we propose to introduce the municipal divisions to other areas of the Nineveh Plain to introduce new aspects.

Rehabilitation of displaced persons and refugees and support for return to the Nineveh Plain

During their follow-up to the regions and towns in the Nineveh Plain and in more than one forum, the activist of the organization revealed concerns of default and delay in supporting the elements of return. This was found especially in general service handling within the Nineveh Plain region. The fields effected are of providing psychological, social, and legal services for the returning of IDPs, as well as for those who still aspire to return waiting for better livelihoods in their home areas. Many IDPs and refugees were subjected to psychological and social disruption during their presence in the displacement camps and housing compounds in which they were hosted. This was due to the behavior of the host communities, bringing urgent need of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Programs, and legal services.

In this context, and considering the absence and weakness of service programs, Hammurabi has been keen on initiating and communicating in the field of rehabilitation, through its continued implementation of the Safe Return Project. This is done within the framework of the projects of the Alliance of Iraqi Minorities Network funded by USAID through Heartland Alliance. The purpose is to provide treatment and legal consultation and psychiatric treatment for societies affected by violence and crises resulting from armed conflicts.
Also, within the framework of the Respond Project, supported by the European Union, the organization contacted the people there to provide these services through two centers in the Hamdaniya District Center and an office in the town of Bartella. The beneficiaries of the project are the Shabak, Christians, Kakai and others who were displaced in 2014 because of the invasion of ISIS to their areas.

It is to be mentioned that the rehabilitation centers for the Safe Return Project and the psychological, social, and legal service centers for the Respond Project are among the few centers in the region that offer legal agencies in the courts free of charge.

Psychological and social services include providing psychological support to the abused or suffering from trauma and psychological problems, addressing the social problems of the beneficiaries after studying, and diagnosing causes.
These services are provided by lawyers and social researchers within these centers, sometimes in camps or in the homes of beneficiaries. In psychological cases, referral service is available, if necessary, to psychiatrists or clinical treatment, to benefit from services provided by partner organizations, as treatment is provided free of charge. It is also worth noting that the USAID-funded Safe Return Project, differs from the European Union-funded Respond Project (EU). The Safe Return Project goes somewhat further than the issue of rehabilitation, psychosocial treatment, and legal service, as it targets a group of beneficiaries. As example, those who need training to help them make a living, courses have been established for women in the field of sewing, embroidery, hairdressing, computer, and English language courses held for young men and women. All support courses are in cooperation with the Iraq Medical Entrance Organization, which is a partner in the Safe Return Project.

The number of beneficiaries of legal, psychological, social services and livelihoods in all the above-mentioned service centers (Safe Return, Respond) benefited 1159 in 2019. In the same framework, to support the elements of return, HHRO has completed the implementation of the street lighting project. This included the streets of Hamdaniya District Center, and the town of Karamles within the project, Samoud, funded by the United States Agency for Development (USAID). In addition, it included setting traffic lights and bumps for roads to protect traffic safety and reduce traffic accidents. It also implemented a project to equip schools with drinking water purification systems. This was accomplished with the support of the International Christian Solidarity Organization in coordination and consultation with the Directorate of Education in Hamdania where 15 schools in the Nineveh Plain benefited. The makeup of those who benefited, totaled nine thousand five hundred (9500) students from various components of the Nineveh Plain, and include Christians, Shabaks, Yezidis, Turkmen, Arabs, and others.
Within the framework of supporting and rehabilitating the displaced children and refugees, the organization has been continuing throughout 2019 and is still continuing within the Respond program supported by the European Union (EU), to rehabilitate the displaced Iraqi children and Syrian refugees. This has been accomplished through art in the Nishtman and Al-Sakhra complexes in the center of Erbil, where they will continue to courses of paint, music, and singing in order to develop their talents and assist them psychologically and intellectually through art. HHRO helped to establish festivals and art exhibitions in which they display their work and creativity. This takes place through a local cadre in the two complexes with assistance and efforts of the administration of the complex, as well as several teachers and trainers of Iraqi and Syrian volunteers. Events of service centers for the rehabilitation of Syrian refugee and Iraqi displaced children in Erbil - Nishtman and Al-Sakhra complexes.

The issue that minorities are suffering in general is related to the spread of unemployment among young graduates of universities and technical institutes. A number of residents of Hamdaniya, Bartella, and Karamles reported to Hammurabi that the local government in Nineveh Province had a negative impact against hundreds of them, by the Iraqi Council of Ministers in 2018. They reported that there were actions to contain and limit Christians job appointments to the Ministry of Education affecting their families who migrated and left the country because of forced displacement after 2014.
Hammurabi Organization for Human Rights

Hammurabi notes that the decline in economic development in the Nineveh Plain will increase and perpetuate the migration of minorities out of the country and may even lead to reduce their presence, especially the Christians. For the same urgent issue of catastrophic migration, its effects on the Iraqi people, and the mechanisms of Iraq in managing this. Hammurabi Human Rights Organization, in cooperation with the European Union, continues to supplement the important report on Iraq within the Respond Project, achieved by a committee of specialized professors headed by Mr. William Warda.

Researchers from Hammurabi are reviewing multi-level migration and its impact on Europe and other countries, the activity of the Respond Project for children displaced from Mosul, and the Nineveh Plain to Erbil, in addition to Syrian refugees, in Nishtiman complex in Erbil.

This project has two centers, one for legal, psychological, and social services in the Nineveh Plain, and the second focus on the rehabilitation of displaced children and refugees and their integration through art in Nishtiman camp in Erbil. The two centers are supervised by Hammurabi Human Rights Organization through its cadres and a group of volunteers, activists both male and female, and the management of Nishtiman camp. Thus, Hammurabi continued an approach to applying in the field what is included in the concept of human rights in the work of defending human rights. This is done not only by denouncing and carrying out advocacy campaigns, but also in searching for practical means to correct and restore looted rights.

Hammurabi also believes that solutions come through searching with thought, words, and action in a consciousness of mind and recognizes that the human being has value and support in achieving what strengthens this value. It passes through seeking to restore violated rights and extends the stubborn will through achieving practical projects that restore the rights of their owners by action.
Through its field monitoring of what happened to the inhabitants of the Nineveh Plain, and the will of several of them to return to their areas after the removal of ISIS. The victim’s expressions the regret of the destruction that had taken place in their homes, churches, public and private institutions, and their economic interests are impactful. Hammurabi considered that more efforts should be made to rebuild the houses and to make this among the priorities represented in providing pure drinking water, food, and health baskets, as well as training, etc.

Likewise, issues that are psychological and moral to these victims are part of their history and symbolize them. One example of such, is the first school in Qaraqosh built in 1916 and rebuilt in 1960 that was destroyed by ISIS in 2014. Hammurabi sought to persuade NGOs and French donors to contribute to a partnership with the aim of rebuilding the public school (Qaraqosh the first). It has been determined that this would encourage the return of the displaced and restore confidence in a possible life in their areas and also, as support for the educational field.

Currently, Hammurabi is implementing the efforts of its representatives with four French financiers of the project, after obtaining all the fundamental approvals at the level of the Ministry of Education in Baghdad and the local government in Qaraqosh. It was legally announced the tender, which was awarded to a young contractor from Qaraqosh said, "I am doing this project not for profit, because the first Qaraqosh School symbolizes many of the cadres who graduated from it, and contributed to writing the history of my hometown." It is indeed a point that encouraged the restoration of the confidence of the population to return after forced displacement. Hope for a future.

This project represents the best motivation for more activity in Hammurabi: From total destruction, the entire construction of the first Qaraqosh School will be completed very soon with the help of God.
The situation of Iraq’s hospitals is a flagrant violation of human rights

Large hospitals such as Yarmouk, from which a large portion of people from Baghdad and the provinces attend, are among the free government hospitals. Hammurabi monitored through direct visits and noted a general lack of cleanliness both inside and outside. Walls covered with dirt were a routine, standing water was noted in the courtyard. Beyond the main entrance, discolored reddened spots were found, resembling spots of blood and mold. This indicates a poor level of attention to patient health. Likewise, the shortage of medicine, supplies, and devices, are a continued impact. We note the difference is vast compared to the 1980s, where it was exceptionally clean and beautiful. There is also a need for training the medical staff and their assistants to provide them with the necessary information on how to deal with referred patients.

In one of Hammurabi’s inspection visits, a patient who happened to be in a Neurological Hospital in Baghdad. The conditions we found were pitiful. There were sick people lying on iron saddles on the floor without sheets to cover the saddles, so blankets were used.

Visitors and relatives of the patients were gathered around them, with their belongings scattered on the ground nearby. Caregivers who were providing the care, found it very difficult to reach the patient, because of the disordered environment. This increased the opportunity that the caregiver may trip or stumble onto a patient or trample on the patient’s belongings scattered near his saddle.

The arguments received were, lack of space, shortage of nurses and other service personnel, etc. These arguments are expected because successive governments have not considered building adequate hospitals and health centers, nor have there been appropriate opportunities for the private sector to invest. And in the absence of governance in the application of health guidelines,
the situation continues. It can be said that the health system in Iraq cannot be considered consistent with a proper and appropriate level of humanitarian service, especially in government hospitals in all regions of Iraq.

There is no doubt that there is a big difference in Baghdad between private and public hospitals, but the greater number of treatment seekers are those with weak and poor income. These individuals do not have the funds to pay the high prices requested by private hospitals in exchange for more health services and more humane treatment, and even the normal expectation of cleanliness.

As for the health aspect in the Nineveh Plain, despite its relatively improved performance compared to after the liberation, several health centers were rehabilitated alongside the main hospital in the Nineveh Plain, located in Al-Hamdaniya district. Still they remain in need of many medical devices and tools such as advanced respiratory devices, a specialized gastroscope for diagnosis, treatment, and surgery etc.

The region, as in the rest of Iraq, needs sophisticated and specialized dental health centers as well as other specialties and new hospitals provided with modern medical equipment. Likewise, the need for sufficiently trained nursing staff to enhance the health status of the patients of the Nineveh Plain.

Through Hammurabi’s visits to hospitals in Hamdaniya and Duhok, a lack of sophisticated medical devices was found to be the case. The situation includes a lack of respiratory devices for patients in the hospitals in Hamdaniya. Because of this lack of ability to treat even the simplest needs, patients must be transferred to Mosul, Erbil, or Duhok by ambulance. Hammurabi also diagnosed a severe lack of nursing staff (including nurses and paramedics) in government and private hospitals.

This is not only in Al Hamdaniya, but also in Dohuk, where the patients’ families are obligated to carry out the duties of nurses and practice remedial actions under the pretext of a lack of staff, especially in emergency and intensive care rooms. The nurse watches, if one is available, while the family serves the patient and rarely do so “under her supervision.” The family are expected to perform all services throughout the day and night. This includes calls to a sentry doctor. It was also found that the situation has been in an advanced state of semi-independence in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq since 1991. No new government hospital has been built in Dohuk. The existing hospital has been inherited from the previous regime. As for private hospitals, which are investments for the owners, they are extremely expensive despite bad service that does not differ much in terms of the service provided at government and public hospitals. Also, the doctors alternate between private and public hospitals, treat, and manage at both hospital types.
As for other services, the most urgent aspects in the nature and type of services are paving the streets, building hospitals and schools, and installation of drinking water units. The response of the local government does not meet the level of need, in fact, it does not exceed even 10% of the region's need. Because of this, regarding needs in the Nineveh Plain, investments would be the solution. The reality of government hospitals in Baghdad is miserable and in desperate need. This issue is not just the state of the facilities, the issue includes a significant lack of various cadres, such as nurses, paramedics, nursing assistants, and other service staff. While the doctors certainly experience this reality, it is the patient and those with him that are most significantly impacted by this shortage, from the point of admission to the hospital.

In the region, as in other provinces, the shock is greater, because the external view of the hospital buildings and fine architecture along with the presence of trees and gardens, give the impression of a much different picture than is experienced once entering the facility for treatment. As for what is inside the buildings, things differ in terms of poor service, bad organization, and maltreatment, so that they are not commensurate with the external appearance of the building. This matter prevails over most health facilities, except in rare situations. This condition is compounded knowing that the region has been semi-independent since 1991 and the financial resources there are not estimated in addition to the proportions allocated from the annual state budget.

Hammurabi monitored some of hospitals in Dohuk and found practices and methods of some concern regarding medical responsibility of some doctors, especially in Azadi Hospital (formerly Saddam). It was also found that those patients who do not have means are not admitted for immediate treatment. This situation is prevalent even in emergent cases in need for intensive care. The rationale given include the lack of respiratory care devices. Hammurabi Human Rights Organization at Azadi hospital, directly witnessed the practices of a specific doctor. The indifference, behavior, and even abuse, that he showed toward a sick patient in the emergency room who suffered from severe shortness of breath was appalling. The Kurdish “doctor,” called Skvan, supervised all departments and floors. The patient condition was deteriorating. The patient was a Christian, originally from Dohuk, and was transferred from Al-Hamdaniya Hospital in the Nineveh Plain. In order to be transferred, it was necessary to change three ambulances to get to Dohuk. As his condition worsened, he became unable to breathe or sit on the bed. After about two hours, the doctor came and refused to accept the tests that were conducted in the district of Qaraqosh, and he refrained from placing the patient directly in intensive care to benefit from the more developed respiratory equipment that are present in the Hamdaniya Hospital (Qara Qosh). The treatment the patient received during his one-day stay, were simple treatments lacking advanced
medical equipment that would have made a difference for his respiratory condition. The doctor mentioned in Azadi Hospital did not pay any attention to the patient’s condition despite another physician’s recommendations in Hamdaniya to put the patient in resuscitation immediately. The Kurdish doctor (Skvan), ordered to repeat the exams in full, saying that he would not recognize tests from “Qaraqosh, Marqosh and Al-Qosh,” (i.e. mocking everything that is not Kurdish).

Simply put, the doctor displayed more political behavior than medical care because the patient was from the Nineveh Plain, which is an area outside of the state of Kurdistan. It was apparent by his behavior that he did not care, especially noted by his demand that examinations should be repeated. Remember that the patient was left with total suffocation, and the doctor responded with indifference. Then, he left the patient at the disposal of his family, who had to do what was required, which was to repeat the exams. The emergency doctor, a different physician, said that there was no need to repeat all the tests that were carried out in Al-Hamdaniya Hospital, as they are clear and sufficient.

But then the Kurdish doctor returned to admonish the emergency doctor, and repeated his demand, saying, “I do not accept any of the examinations! All of them are to be repeated.” The patient was placed on a dirty bed and transferred to the place of analysis, while facing his last moments. Then, it became known that the doctor who would perform the blood analysis had left, and there was no one to take the blood and do the analysis. While the doctor continued his stubbornness, the emergency doctor who was concerned, came again and said all the tests are good. However, the patient’s family decided to transfer the patient to a private hospital in the hope of better treatment, since government hospitals have become a poor option even for the most serious cases. During this time, one of the patient relatives arrived who happened to be a doctor. He was not pleased with the situation and raised his voice, saying, “Why did you not treat my uncle?” Imagine, the doctor, Skvan Agha, upon discovering that the patient that he had treated so poorly, was the uncle of his colleague, so he began to say, “I am in service,” and other lies. It is this behavior that is undoubtedly repeated daily against innocent people, who are not Kurds. What defense do these patients have against this treatment? Something must be done to hold this type of behavior in contempt.

As for the family of the patient, they lost confidence in this doctor, and they transferred the patient to a private hospital. These hospitals are not vastly different from the government facilities in terms of performance, medical practices, and hygiene. This is especially true regarding dealing with patients in the case of intensive care because of overcrowding of patients and considering the same doctors alternate between public hospitals and private.
Thus, these patients become victims in the hands of some who, unfortunately, do not deserve to be in the medical service. Medical service should be a scientific and human service and should be political nor economic.

It was clear from this situation in Dohuk that treatment in government hospitals has become preferential for those who have influence. It shows that some doctors are engaged in administrative corruption and even betray the oath in the medical service. The examples provided showed clear evidence of poor care, which places patients in a position to need to go to private hospitals where there is hope of better care. However, the same doctors work at both types of hospitals. An informed source of our organization said that most people in the hospital and the city there voice concerns over the situation with regard not only to the behavior of the doctors but also a shortage in rooms with medical equipment and of staff.

Unfortunately, the worst performance is in Iraq. The reason is the lack of nurses, practiced assistants, conscience in providing safe and effective care, sincerity of service, and even protection personnel for those service institutions that are so necessary for every individual in society.

However, there are more than one Ministry of Health and many directorates and with acceptable annual allocations to the health sector from state budgets. We must ask what constitutes the highest of priorities for those ministries, directorates, and the doctors themselves. Doctors know what is required to gain the desired end results in the provision of appropriate health care. In addition, they have a responsibility not only to the patient but to the organization to submit appropriate requests for the services needed to meet that end result. They play a part in engaging practical mechanisms to monitor the quality of the services provided to patients. This is the basis for the provision of medical care for every hospital and dispensary, and they must care enough and be equipped with conscience to provide the most basic human rights in his country, which is respect for the patient's right to health.

Considering the situations in these areas, transporting a patient from one province to another has been subject to political conditions. An example is when a patient needs to be moved from Mosul to a point before the Dohuk borders. The reality is that the patient must change vehicles because the ambulance from Mosul does not have the right to enter Duhok. It is like moving from one country to another. Imagine being in an emergent health situation and only being able to get partway to your destination, where you can hopefully acquire help. Now, consider if that transition care is late. A basic human right is that their lives matter, that it be a priority. In addition to this concern, the quality and condition of the ambulances are lacking.
Through these examples, of flagrant violation of the most basic human rights, and which should be devoid of politics, and exploitation, the HHRO in Baghdad and in the Kurdistan region alike are calling on Health Ministers, to carry out their responsibilities differently, starting with requiring hospitals, directors, and doctors to attend training courses on bearing responsibility for the health of citizens professionally and humanely than has been since the mid-1980s.

**Violations targeting Iraqi women / the reality of Iraqi women in Nineveh province**

Mrs. Pascale Warda, chairwoman of Hammurabi Human Rights Organization, described the violence against Iraqi women as a complex multi-source violence. She added in a press statement, on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on November 25, 2019, that the violations of Iraqi girls and women are socially, politically, culturally, and generally brutally perpetrated. Furthermore, in addition to the common domestic violence of parents, brothers, and spouses, there is also general violence represented by political, economic, and cultural violations. There is blatant discrimination in employment opportunities offered, and involvement in political decision making, sovereign positions, and fateful issues of the country.

After liberation from ISIS, the reality of women in the Nineveh region is better than previously. However, the reality of displacement had a significant and bitter impact on many families, due to crimes caused by the terrorists that left more than 7,000 widows and 23,000 orphans throughout the province of Nineveh. The humanitarian conditions for widows and orphans are awful, due to the lack of necessary support from the government, as the lack of financial allocations prevent the provision of social programs to care for them. These families are left to live on what is provided by humanitarian organizations other than Governmental assistance, and the value is not sufficient.

Through this, the following phenomena can be deduced:

- Trafficking in women and girls was exacerbated during and after conflict situations, and the sexual and economic exploitation of women increased.
- The poor ability of women to access justice due to the lack of gender equality and the rule of law in these situations is not only due to the rule of men, the aggravation of poverty, and the inability to access social services but also the inability to secure income and meet the needs of the family.
- The persistence of sexual violence and its transformation is a source of concern because of rape and harassment incidents.
• Basic services are declining for the population, which limits the access of women and girls to education in addition to obstacles to their access to education. Women also face obstacles in obtaining health services, as well as displacement from exercising their rights and marginalization of women to prevent their participation in conflict resolution, peacebuilding, and political decisions.

• Girls who were kidnapped, at ages between three and 35 years old, were subjected to sexual exploitation, abuse, trafficking, forced marriage, forced change of religion, and acts of slavery in the homes of terrorists.

• Women and children are victims of war and need special programs to protect them from loss and help them achieve progress. There must be serious laws guaranteeing the rights of widows and orphans, for example, their access to social care and the opening of training courses to educate them on professions, so that they can rely on themselves. Also, opening centers for orphan children to rehabilitate them and benefit them as part of a society so that they, in turn, can benefit society.

• The situation lacks the presence of distinguished activities for women throughout Nineveh province.

Hammurabi, one of the founders and members of the Iraqi Women’s Network, continue conditional support for the feminist movement in Mosul.

Mrs. Warda emphasized that Hammurabi Human Rights Organization addressed all these violations with unrelenting determination. It was accomplished through many human rights programs implemented by the organization regarding the protection of women from domestic and gender-based violence through workshops, seminars, conferences, dialogue sessions held, and the statements issued by them.
Hammurabi Organization for Human Rights

Hammurabi also participated, along with other organizations such as the Iraqi Women’s Network, in activities of these types and adopted a system of field orientations during crises that spread due to terrorism and armed violence in general. HHRO documenting the cases and had worked with survivors of ISIS captivity through the services provided to child survivors and women who survived ISIS sexual violence.

We renew our stand that Iraqi women’s rights have a solid role in the expected reforms in response to the demands of the protesters and sit-ins who continue their demonstrations with courage and persistence despite the sacrifices they have made. This is noted especially considering Iraqi women who have demonstrated alongside men in partnership in these demands of all society. Hammurabi also urges government agencies to actively refer to international instruments and conventions regarding women’s rights.

In addition, and in partnership with the Iraqi Women’s Network, we urge the issuance of the law of domestic violence against women and children within families.

**Human rights violations affecting different citizens**

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization received information about the kidnapping of the citizen, Taha Hanash Khairu, born in 1965, in the city of Hilla near his house on 12/6/2016. The kidnapping information provided to HHRO is that a white pickup with three masked men intercepted the car of Taha, who was driving with one of his friends. The kidnappers forced him to get out of the vehicle and put him in their truck.

One of the masked men drove the car of the kidnapped citizen, leaving his friend in the middle of the street. Afterward, they informed his family and, in turn, the Hilla police about the incident. After twenty-five days of abduction, the kidnappers contacted the family by phone, requesting a ransom of 500,000 dollars. Further discussion took place between the kidnappers and the family of the kidnapped citizen with an agreement to settle on 110,000 dollars as well as delivery instructions. The National Security directed the family not to pay the ransom, confirming that the gang would be arrested. Still, the kidnapped man imposed pressures on his family not to comply with what the National Security order, so his family handed over the amount at the place agreed upon outside the city of Hilla. The kidnapped citizen was not released.

Among the other information that was provided to HHRO, the kidnappers allowed a member of his family to speak with him on more than one occasion. It appeared that this was in efforts to speed up the payment of the ransom. Also, there is other information that the head of the kidnapping gang, named Sayyid
Ali, had an arrest warrant issued from the Iraqi judiciary and that he is fleeing to Iran. However, this information is not reliable and according to the family of the kidnapped citizen. The police Brigadier General in the Babil province Police Department is fully aware of the file and its circumstances. The provincial police submitted a detailed report of the incident to the Minister of Interior according to police officer communication to the family.

The family of the kidnapped citizen, Taha Hanash Khairo, receives information from time to time, but all without confirmation. The family still does not know the fate of their kidnapped family member. Mostly, the authorities are aware of this kidnapping. Some victims of kidnapping have been released, as happened to the medic Ibrahim Hussein, the brother of the artist Alaa Hussein, and others. He was released after a long time in captivity. In all cases, the political authorities, as well as the security forces, are responsible for all these crimes before the law, because they have a duty to protect citizens.

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization received documented information stating that one of the persons supported by an influential party acquired a plot of land of the owner the Christian (P.M.). The land, located in Mahala 10/728, No. 11/4/12521, near Hamdi farm, in proximity to the former public security building. The area of the plot, 900 square meters, is where this person unlawfully built two homes.

**In Basra province**

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization, received a phone call from Basra, stating that the apartment of the citizen, Nujoud Lutfi, was attacked by police officers under the responsibility of Major Walid from Basra Crime Office, Al-Maakal, at 1.00 AM on 1/5/2019 without the approval of the mayoryalty of the area which should accompany any police raiding the homes of citizens. The police group that raided the house did not have a judicial warrant. They arbitrarily inspected and then left the house. Mrs. Nujoud Loutfi is a mother of four girls, a member of the Ansar Al-Hurriya Association, and responsible for the women's office. Mrs. Nujoud filed a lawsuit regarding the incident. The authorities responsible for protecting citizens remain responsible for such crimes.

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization received the complaint that the citizen, Sami Khalil Abdel Jalil Ibrahim, had died on 7/6/2019, after being arrested at the Shatt Al-Arab Police Station / Drug Control Division / Basra province. The deceased citizen, Sami, was imprisoned over a drug abuse case and was exposed to severe bronchitis. He was supposed to be transferred to a hospital, but he was suffering in one of the corridors of the center for a time until his health condition had seriously deteriorated. After he was transferred to Al
Hammurabi Organization for Human Rights

Jumhori General Hospital, the family received communication that he had died, and they were to receive the body. Information indicates that the prison where the citizen Sami was, did not have the basic service requirements, and he suffered from overcrowding. The indifference of those in charge of his administration was evident in his lack of care.

The human rights activist, Maytham Muhammad Jasim Mubarak, described the incident he was exposed to on 7/20/2019 in Basra as a targeted assassination attempt. Information received by Hammurabi Human Rights Organization identified that he was traveling in a car, a Sonata, driven by his friend, Ammar Hassan Oraibi. In the area of Saad Square, in the direction of Baghdad Street and three hundred meters before the intersection of the nationalization, a Toyota Crown olive-colored car attempted to bar the road and tried to shoot him. A rescue vehicle was present at the moment of the accident. This vehicle cut in front of them, and they could not follow through with their plans.

According to the story of the human rights activist Mubarak, those who wanted to target him collided with their car, which after losing control, crossed to the other side of the road and collided with a concrete barrier on the banks of the river in the intersection of Tamim on the part of the Asma’i area. His friend, Ammar Hassan Oraibi, suffered lower jaw and other bodily damage and lost consciousness because of a blow to the head and bruises resulting from the accident. They were taken to Al-Faihaa Hospital, and the car that was chasing him escaped.

In his letter, he indicated that he accused militias of trying to assassinate him and that he had noticed an absence of police interest in chasing the car that originally caused the accident.

It is to be mentioned that the human rights activist, Maitham Mubarak, is one of the activists in the Alliance of Iraqi Minorities Network, who worked to defend the rights of minorities, including Iraqi citizens of dark skin in Basra. He belongs to Ansar Al-Hurriya Organization, a non-governmental organization specializing in the promotion of freedoms, especially the rights and freedoms of people with brown skin.

**Conclusions**

The year 2019, did not differ from the previous year regarding the human rights violations to which the Iraqis were subjected, such as its quality, the extent of the abuse, and the aggravation of these violations. There was a decrease in the size of the bombings and other phenomena of violence. However, there were unprecedented violations in the treatment of the Iraqis who demonstrated and protested in Baghdad and many provinces. The legitimate rights, which are
included in the constitution, representing a right in the international charter that cannot be compromised in any way, because it represents a natural right. The year 2019, represented by the information compiled by research and observation by Hammurabi Rights is as follows:

1. The political authority continues to disregard the rights of Iraqi citizens in political, economic, and cultural aspects, as well as in other rights that are an essential part of preserving the dignity of the Iraqi person and achieving justice and equity.

2. Future aspirations of Iraqis are stymied due to preoccupation with the dominant political components of the Iraqi scene in sectarian and regional conflicts, while the basic rights that would correct the general situation of the country remain unaddressed.

3. The continued spread of the phenomenon of administrative and financial corruption at the expense of integrity and transparency prevails. This is despite the fact that the Integrity Commission took some decisions in referring corruption to the judiciary and issued rulings against them. However, the procedures were selective and did not match the large number of corrupt people and the size of the coverage exercised by political groups and parties that protect them.

4. Economic planning delays and the lack of the necessary financial means continue, leading to the continued failure to achieve sustainable human development that can lift the country from a state of economic weakness, and neglect.

5. The unemployment phenomenon continues at great rates, especially among graduates, and according to information received, there are now more than a million and a half Iraqi citizens with academic qualifications that do not find opportunities to work in proportion to these qualifications.

6. There is a significant delay in services: municipal, electricity, education, health, tourism, and entertainment services. This is due to the lack of procedures to address this delay related to poor planning, corruption in implementation, and a lack of punishment by slow institutions.

7. Differences continue over the disputed areas between the federal government and the regional government, and a situation that negatively affected the lives of citizens living in these areas. This was associated with the existence of violations pending the solution of this problem between Baghdad and Erbil and clearly reflected in areas belonging to the provinces of Nineveh and Kirkuk.

8. The government agencies have not been able to completely close the displacement and refugee camps, as there are still displaced persons and refugees in the camps set up in the governorates of Erbil, Nineveh, and Baghdad. Rather, camps for the displaced were set up in Diyala Governorate due to tribal conflicts that led to the displacement movement in this governorate and in the provinces of Basra and Maysan. These are in the lines of contact between the tribal areas that witnessed bloody conflicts between them.
9. The year 2019 did not differ from other years in the extent of violations that women are exposed to in general in the economic field, as well as in family relations despite the strong demands of civil society organizations in creating social climates and laws that protect women’s rights. In this regard, HHRO recorded cases of these violations.

10. The phenomenon of kidnapping and forced absenteeism continued, with a clear lack of interest in the previous files, which included many kidnapped, whose fate remains unknown. The HHRO has followed this file with continued interest.

11. The liberated cities, towns, and villages in Nineveh Governorate are still suffering from a delay in services to meet the needs of the returnees to these areas. They also continue to suffer from other violations that are represented in the weakness of the procedures that would guarantee the reconstruction of these areas. In addition, the need to achieve the transitional justice of compensation to the victims and prosecution for all those responsible for terrorist crimes.

12. The operations of using live bullets and intentional killing, represent one of the most serious types of violations that targeted Iraqis in demonstrations and sit-ins in Baghdad and other uprisings. According to documented information, the number of those who died in these protests by the end of 2019 was 514 people, while the number of wounded reached 11,982 people. In addition, more than three thousand citizens were arrested and 2700 who were released after several investigations.

13. Accusations were issued by protesters of security forces committing intentional killing and based on an investigation issued by the Council of Ministers, which acknowledged the occurrence of such serious violations. According to a report prepared by a committee formed to investigate what happened, and in the framework of that, the Supreme Judicial Council called on families that had fallen. Government agencies have issued indications of the presence of masked people among protesters, describing the crime committed in Al Wathba Square against the murdered youth, Haitham Ali.

14. The phenomenon of begging, as well as homelessness among children and the elderly, are still spreading at intersections and in public parks, as well as on some sidewalks in Baghdad and other Iraqi governorates.

15. The conclusion must also be stated in the annual report on the serious and continuous work

The weakness of resources, caught the attention of international observers for the third time after Hammurabi won the award for the best human rights organization in the most dangerous conditions in the world, by the Office of Human Rights at the US State Department in 2012. The Chairwoman of Hammurabi was honored as one of the distinguished defenders from among 30 defenders around the world by the Human Rights Council Middle East and North Africa Division.
Finally, in July of this year, the last prize awarded at the Ministerial Conference in Washington for Religious Freedom, where six people were chosen worldwide, including only two from Iraq, namely Mrs. Pascale Warda and Mr. William Warda, the founders and leaders of Hammurabi Human Rights Organization. They were honored at the conference by US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, for their ongoing defense of religious freedoms. This tremendous amount of achievement made by Hammurabi is not a competition with an agenda or a goal, except to urge the recognition of respect and dignity of Human rights.
Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohamed Al-Hakim and the Iraqi ambassador in Washington organized a banquet at the Iraqi embassy to honor Hammurabi and the Yezidi survivor, Nadia Murad, who won the Nobel Peace Prize for her courage in the plight of ISIS.
Adtionnaly, Mrs. Valerie Bouyer, Member of the French Parliament and Mayor of two municipalities in Marseille, and Mr. Julien Ravier honored Mrs. Warda for distinguished and dedicated defense of human rights in January 2019. An official reception ceremony was attended by numbers of personalities and some of the relatives headed by her late father in Marseille.

Following the recognition of the United Nations on the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the Human Rights Council, Middle East, and North Africa Division, in Pert 2018
In Baghdad, the Director-General of the Department of Non-Governmental Organizations in the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Muhammad Taher Al-Tamim, presented a letter of thanks and appreciation to the Chairwoman of the organization in celebration of these official international honors.

**Recommendations**

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization is keen to keep track of the events of peaceful demonstrations and sit-ins that occurred in Iraq during the last three months of 2019, as well as the content of its general human rights activities and the conclusions it reached according to the information and facts available.

In this regard, the organization believes that the following recommendations should be achieved to solve the increasing human rights crisis in the country to avoid the possibility that matters may continue toward chaos. Hammurabi Human Rights Organization submits recommendations for sincere efforts that must be accomplished to establish a civil democratic system that meets the Iraqi citizen’ aspirations and to keep the country away from continued political conflicts. These recommendations are as follows:

1. There must be a fundamental change in the existing political structure, to extract the country from sectarian and regional domination and provide equal opportunities, and the right ground for the peaceful transfer of power.
2. Establishing a clear economic development system based on sustainable human development that guarantees job opportunities, addressing developmental imbalances, expanding Iraq’s export capabilities, and putting an end to all phenomena of neglect.
3. Facing the phenomenon of corruption with courage, perseverance, and bringing those involved in it to the judiciary to obtain fair punishment and recover the looted money that this phenomenon took that has not as yet been firmly addressed.
4. Setting up executive policies with a degree of accuracy and sincerity in dealing with the failures in public services such as electricity, water, health, and educational services. Desist from the experimentation policy that has caused more money to be wasted without achieving acceptable positive results.
5. Serious attention to the rights of young people to study, as well as being afforded work opportunities, addressing unemployment, which has reached alarming rates, and has primarily affected college and institute graduates.
6. Calling for early elections that put an end to the dominance of political parties implicating many of their leaders and cadres in corruption. Open
the way for independent efficiencies to serve the issues of the country with clear evidence that all Iraq suffered after the change in 2003.

Recognition of parties in religious and ethnic forms on calculating the civil curriculum in which everyone has equal opportunities.

7. Adopt a fair and independent judicial system to hold all those responsible for violence, murders, and kidnappings witnessed in the country during the past years. This must include attempts to eliminate the popular uprising that started in Iraq during the last three months of 2019.

8. Working to find keys to end the crisis that exists so far between the federal government and the Kurdistan Regional Government. This is important in the matter of disputed areas, as these discounts led to serious negative effects on the residents of those areas, especially minorities affected by the ongoing migration.

9. Adopting a comprehensive review of all laws and legislations that limit the right of women and adopting the well-known international standard contained in agreements and protocols related to women’s rights.

10. The government and the influential authorities in the ruling political authority should observe the principles and values that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights brought. This will help to meet the demands of the Human Rights Council within the framework of a comprehensive periodic review of these rights.

11. End all armed manifestations that move outside the framework of the state and the authority of the government, unify efforts to ensure the existence of a just government with a quick and responsive judiciary, and implement the provisions fairly, away from any sectarian, political or regional favoritism.

12. Emphasizing the need for competence and educational precedence in graduation to be the basis for employment. Initial focus would be best served to graduates in governorates that still suffer from underdevelopment and delayed growth.

13. Treatment of the imbalances that still exist because of the crimes committed by ISIS in the areas it occupied. Adoption of a balanced development policy that meets the rights of returnees to their areas after the forced migration to which they were subjected because of ISIS.

14. Reconsider the opportunities of all minorities to ensure and preserve their right to serious political participation and to qualify their opportunities more than the existing situation in the House of Representatives and other state institutions.

15. Listen to the demands put forth by civil society organizations because they understand the concerns of a society that have been overlooked due to poor political management. They follow up on what is in Iraqi society and in the field with the legitimate rights that citizens deserve. Therefore, they and their activists’ lives must be protected from kidnapping and arrest, and indeed their volunteerism as direct partners...
ready to serve the citizenry must be respected. Moreover, the organizations are considered essential schools of democracy that interact with societies in raising awareness and activating the role of citizenship. They are separate from the national auctions, in which some political groups compete, yet they have a deep understanding of the needs because they live them.

16. Seek to issue a national cultural and media charter that puts an end to all untrue news and lies trying to plant division and undermining among Iraqis. Create a system and media mechanism that safeguard freedom of speech and put an end to all violations of these rights.

17. Put an end to all abuse and rape of the property and rights of citizens. Work judicially to restore these rights to their legal owners and hold those responsible for divestment of them as fair judicial punishment.

18. Work to encourage youth competencies and find a council or center that preserves the rights of these competencies and works to encourage them. This is especially important, as the country desperately needs such competencies considering situations where some of its owners have been forced to leave Iraq and publish what they have achieved in other countries.

Summary

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization considers that the continuation of kidnappings and forced absenteeism has become part of general life in Iraq, especially in Baghdad and the rising provinces, and that the phenomenon is a situation of unacceptable security chaos. Authorities must assume dual responsibility in the security issue, It must put an end to these operations if there are parties outside the government that carry out these operations. If there are security implementing forces, the government's human rights authorities must expedite to tell the families of the kidnapped people under arrest. They must apply the human rights that should be provided, consider the reasons for their arrest, and refer to the judiciary if they have certain charges that require their trial. The poor detention conditions and violations resulting from the police and investigators' treatment are not acceptable and do not represent protecting human rights and maintaining the dignity of the human person required in Iraq's international obligations.

The protection of human rights defenders and other civil activists is an international moral obligation. We urge the Iraqi authorities in Baghdad and Erbil not to override them, to strengthen the foundations of democracy regarding freedom of opinion and assembly, and the possibility of creating public opinion in the service of a civil state with a constitution aiming for civil repair.
The light of hope and the Tigris of Goodness should shine with its pearl, took the oath of Euphrates river to dispel the night of Baghdad so that Iraq would enjoy the emergence of peace on the land of civilizations.