



Hammurabi Human Rights Organization

Annual Report - 2016

The conditions of Human Rights in Iraq Field monitoring, follow-up, documentation and Testimonies



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Preamble

Human Rights in Iraq during 2016 have been subject to additional dangerous violations compared to what happened last years with a large number of violations affecting more victims due to the continues security breaches in the capital Baghdad and other cities, or as a result to the military operations due to ISIS's use of civilians in Salah Ad Din governorate "Tikrit", Anbar and Nineveh as human shields to halt the advance of the Iraqi military forces and other supported forces. To a similar extent, residents of areas located near the locations of the terrorist groups suffered much due to the preemptive attacks using vehicle borne IEDs and suicide attackers wearing explosive belts launched by the terrorists.

In 2016, we saw a large influx of IDPs from Salah Ad Din, Anbar and Nineveh, thus new displacement camps were established and added to the list of more than twenty camps in Erbil, Duhok and Nineveh.

In Baghdad, numerous explosions took place leaving behind more tragedies; the largest attack took place in Karrada which resulted in the destruction of a large space and hundreds of dead civilians.

Other indications of the tragic conditions experienced by Iraq during 2016; the influx of thousands of Iraqis, especially minorities with Christians in the lead, to neighboring countries and Lebanon to apply for asylum abroad, according to our latest information, more than half a million Iraqi citizen is an asylum seeker, while thousands are waiting for be considered by the United Nations for such an opportunity, they are present in large numbers in Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon and Iran, in light of these tragic conditions, Iraqi minorities also suffered from "structured violations" due to unfair laws, such as what was included in the Unified National Card Law in article 26 which discriminated against non-Muslim Iraqis, which contradicts with the Iraqi constitution's guarantee of equality between Iraqis, which also contradicts with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Abduction, extortion, threats and forced disappearance incidents continue at almost the same rate. Iraqi minorities lost many rights and opportunities to live in safety due to the continued disputes between the two government, the federal government in Baghdad and the regional government in Erbil.

In general, 2016 was filled with various and numerous violations.

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization aims to reveals in this report the conditions of Human Rights in Iraq, utilizing a legal, descriptive and analytical methodology when observing few laws and the prevailing legal environment, HHRO also depends on observation, meeting, monitoring and personal direct interviews when collecting information about the developing situation and conditions of IDPs and the violations that take place in different Iraqi cities and regions, in addition to the information provided by the monitors of Hammurabi located in various locations in Iraqi governorates whom were trained by the organization, so they could provide information to be added to the information gathered by Hammurabi's members and patrons in different regions and Iraqi governorates, Hammurabi also depends on gathering information from messages, claims and complaints received by the organization from Iraqi citizens, also utilizing data gathered by few civil society organizations concerned about Human Rights, not to forget minorities and local and

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international media. Overall, the methodology adopted by Hammurabi Human Rights Organization is a field methodology with all its mechanisms.

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Condition of IDPs (Displacement Camps Reality):

Upon relief and inspection tours conducted by HHRO's field team in displacement camps in Erbil, Duhok, Nineveh and Sulaymaniyah, HHRO was assured of numerous bad conditions that has to be addressed, recorded and described as violations, which could be summed up by:

1. Population density in each camp where many families continue to live in only one room where they sleep and eat, families with more than 7 members can only live or move in this sole room.
2. Obvious spread of various physical and psychological diseases with the lack of treatment or solutions for the urgent cases, knowing that what is provided by the governmental hospitals in the Kurdistan region in Iraq to serve the IDPs is not enough and forces them to wait long to be served, forcing them to go to private doctors, it's very difficult for any of them who requires a surgery because it's very expensive and they lack the financial ability to pay.
3. Obvious decrease and deterioration of relief assistance provided to IDPs, only about 25% of humanitarian organization that used to be operation during the first year of displacement continue to do relief work today, this deterioration resulted in more difficult condition for IDPs.
4. IDPs are frustrated because they have been waiting for long for their lands to liberated, which weakens their hopes in returning to their homes they were forced out of because of ISIS, especially that images showing the destruction that took place in liberated areas and that those areas haven't been fully liberated yet are being spread, they are also worried that they would be subject to new violations once they returned due to the contradiction in orders and the issues caused in what is called disputed territory, there is referring to what happened in Sinjar after the departure of the terrorist groups of ISIS when the Peshmerga moved in, that only about 5% of its residents decided to return, those who returned also suffered from competition between the different Kurdish forces present in that area, residents face difficulties because it's difficult for humanitarian organizations and relief team to reach them due to complicated and strict security measures at the checkpoints.
5. Unemployment is also spread in IDPs' camps, especially for youths aged between 18 and 35 years, the percentage of unemployment is much higher among women and girls.
6. Most camps lack playing fields or places where kids could be entertained, and where it is present it lack the simplest services, it is common to find children and youths playing in tight spaces in these camps.
7. A number of displaced families have been subject to extortion, given offers by smugglers who promise to secure a travel for them to one of the European countries or the united states or Australia, due to this a number of families left to Jordan and Lebanon wishing to emigrate.
8. During the first half of 2016, numbers of IDPs risen due to military operation in the governorates of Salah Ad Din, Diala and Anbar, the number reached unprecedented figures in the governorate of Anbar after the liberation of Ramadi, Falluja and Khalidiya, the suffering of these IDPs was so harsh few moved to Kirkuk, the Kurdistan region and the outskirts of Baghdad and Karbala, governmental performance towards IDPs is not enough and almost nonexistent in few areas.
9. The issue of the salaries of the employees of the Nineveh Health Directorate continues to be unsolved, the salaries supposed to be for the representation of the directorate in Duhok and Erbil were stolen and the issue is lost in different sides, this resulted in the arrest of the

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manager of Nineveh Health Directorate upon accusation of manipulation of salaries, in addition to other arrests, according to informed sources; the stolen money amounts to more than 11 billion Iraqi dinars, while Iraqi judiciary has been looking into this case and investigation remains ongoing. HHRO is calling the judicial system to accelerate the efforts to solve this issue because it concerns the rights of displaced employees in Duhok and Erbil who haven't received their salaries for months, the painful truth is that the employees who remained in Mosul upon the invasion of ISIS continue to receive their salaries.

10. Hammurabi occasionally receives appeals from displaced people asking the organization to intervene in order to solve the issue of their savings in the banks of Mosul, Baghdida, Telkief, Sinjar and Telafer upon the occupation of the ISIS which took control of these areas, thus Hammurabi Human Rights Organization appeals to Iraqi Banking System to solve this issue by allowing banks in Erbil, Duhok and Baghdad to permit the owners of these savings to withdraw what they desperately need in these conditions. It's worth mentioning that there's an electronic system that handles Iraqi governmental banking processes in addition to deposit books carried by the owners of these savings including details about their savings.
11. Ezidi and Christian IDPs complain that the social crisis is in deterioration because youths aren't prone to marriage anymore which caused a noticeable decrease in their numbers, the cause of this phenomena is the harsh economic conditions endured by these Ezidi and Christian families, in addition to the expensive costs of marriage and the difficult security situation as well.
12. A number of Iraqi IDPs drowned in the Aegean Sea when they were using inflatable boats to emigrate, they drowned includes Ezidies and Christians. A delegation from HHRO attended the funeral of 7 of those whom were from the Nineveh plain, they were buried in Ankawa in the governorate of Erbil, the dead included children and youths.

HHRO teams have been working hard to visit and check on various camps and villages where IDPs took refuge since 2014, HHRO provided material and financial aid to no less than 9000 families during 2014 and 4717 families during 2015, the majority were from minority communities. Moreover, HHRO provided aid to 7082 families in 2016, the distribution gave no regards to their religious or ethnic affiliation, while running an relief and aid program HHRO continues to monitor IDPs' conditions, especially the recent influx of displaced families from Mosul, documenting their struggle and suffering, teams from HHRO went to camps located near the outskirts of Mosul during the last 3 months to inspect the condition of IDPs, listening to their complaints in the camps of Khazer, Debaka and other camps located about 35 kilometers from Mosul, HHRO provided what was within the organization's ability to alleviate their suffering.

HHRO visited the displaced who arrived recently from the villages, towns and cities of the Nineveh governorate who escaped from areas where military operations continue between the federal government forces supported by the Hashed Sha'bi (Popular Mobilization Forces), Peshmerga and the Tribal Mobilization Forces and between the terrorists of ISIS, HHRO's delegations spent numerous hours visit IDPs, during the visit to the camp of Debaka in September 2016 we noticed the lack of drinking water, lack of care for children and women, HHRO's team was assured that new born babies and women have died as a result to heat and lacking medical teams for emergencies, during a visit to the camp of Khazer which is located 30 km from Erbil in October 2016, as an example, HHRO teams walked around the camp that includes 9000 tents and is home to more than 30 thousand IDPs who receive aid from few international organizations following the United

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Nations such as the High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and other local NGOs, HHRO's team concluded the following:

First: blankets, mattresses and other home supplies are scarce which forced few IDPs to sit on the floor despite being cold and muddy.

Second: the camp suffers from noticeable lack of drinking water, putting into consideration that the camp's administration did install water tanks to provide water to IDPs but the tanks are substandard and lack accepted qualifications.

Third: complete absence of hygiene and health conditions with regards to installed bathrooms, every twenty families must share 4 tiny cabinets, each could only fit one person.

Fourth: The Iraqi Red Crescent Association distributed one small oil cooker, 30 kg bag of rice, and 500 food baskets daily. Families are forced to buy kerosene to cook from the black market which are located near the camp, that's also where water bottles are bought.

Fifth: there's a medical center that offers necessary treatment to certain medical conditions for free, more crucial medical conditions are transferred to Erbil hospitals, but the health services inside the camp doesn't cover the needs of the sick IDPs.

Sixth: HHRO's team recording videos of medical conditions and psychological complaints for displaced children, few of them were injured by the terrorist groups.

Seventh: Khazer camp is overcrowded, with a continues influx of IDPs to it from areas where military operations are ongoing, a number of IDPs manage to reach the camp through safe corridors secured by the Iraqi forces.

Eighth: IDPs in the Khazer camp complained from strict military procedures at the camp, many IDPs told HHRO's team that they are willing to return to their areas upon the liberation, mentioning that they received phone calls from their relatives asking them to return home but the management of the camp which is supervised by security forces from the Kurdistan Regional Government of Iraq didn't allow them to leave the camp.

Ninth: Many IDPs complained that they haven't been able to receive their salaries for one and a half year given various excuses, a number of IDPs were faced with difficulties when they tried to receive their social security entitlements while being in the Khazer camp, they appeal to the federal government to take urgent decisions that would secure their salaries, confirming that so many of them don't have enough money to cover their daily needs.

Tenth: HHRO's team provided a diagnosis of the difficult conditions endured by children in the Khazer camp, they lack the most basic needs required by childhood, in addition to lack of children care supplies for newborn babies.

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization, in light of the mentioned ten field observations recorded by HHRO's teams while visiting the Khazer camp, sees the important of working and utilizing all available resources to address the issues facing these IDPs. HHRO also recommends additional actions by civil international organization to provide aid and listen to the rightful demands of these citizens.

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Bloody Explosions:

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization monitored the series of explosion, violence and security breaches recurring during 2016, the most violence was the one that took place in the Karrada neighborhood on 3/7/2016, in addition to other locations targeted by attacks that, this attacked resulted in 200 deaths and hundreds of deadly injuries as well. The same situation can be observed in Baquba and Kirkuk where activists connected to HHRO stated that one of the main causes of these attacks was the presence of sleeper cells of terrorists inside the capital and few Iraqi cities that operate according to certain goals, the explosions also revealed the weakness of the technical level of those responsible for security, other activists mention the existence of obvious corruption among security agencies responsible for the safety of these cities.



Karrada bombings; crimes of war and genocide which someone must be accounted for

ISIS have taken responsibility for more than 12 suicide attack and Vehicle Born IED explosions all over the country during the 7th of July 2016, the criminal gangs of ISIS conducted triple suicide attacks targeting a Shi'ite shrine in the town of (Balad) about 100 km north of Baghdad, this attack resulted in the death of 35 people at least and more than 60 civilians injured.

In September and October, reports and statements issued by Iraqi and American officials indicated that ISIS launched no less than 3 chemical attacks in the town of Qayara southern Mosul, poisonous chemical substances were used as a weapon, this forms a serious threat to civilians and fighters and amounts to a war crime.

HHRO was informed that ISIS burned large quantities of sulfur in the Meshraqfield which caused cases of suffocation among civilians in Qayara and southern Mosul, this was an attempt to halt the advance of the Iraqi forces towards Mosul, and according to the UNAMI, since January 2016, airstrikes, explosion, gunfire or suicide attacks killed 9153 Iraqis at least.

Prisons and Detentions:

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization monitored the conditions of prisons noticing that the changes recommended by HHRO's report upon a visit by a delegation from HHRO to a women's prison in 2012 are substandard and require further development, especially the quality of buildings which need the establishment of rehabilitation departments for psychological and physical rehabilitation for prisoners and detainees, in order to respect Iraq's obligations towards Human Rights covenants and texts, in particular the convention against torture and other bad treatment or

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cruel punishment or unhumanitarian or insulting behavior that targets human dignity which is required to be preserved.

In this context, parents of prisoners and detainees informed HHRO that their sons are, every now and then, being subject to systematic torture despite being sentenced, and that members of militias or the families of the victims are undertaking the torture to take revenge for their murdered sons, the majority of data provided to HHRO refer to what's happening in Nasiriyah prison, mentioning the lack of programs to organize parents visits, and shops that could cover the needs of these prisoners, according to other information, a number of guards have been accused of promoting for certain types of drugs among detainees and prisoners in exchange for a lot of money, few prisoners are forced to use the drugs pressured by the tragic conditions they are living in, it is worth mentioning that few of them has been waiting for their court dates for several months, and in few cases several years. HHRO welcomed the amnesty decision voted by the Iraqi parliament in August 2016, appealing to the judicial system to include a wide variety of prisoners with the exception of those who committed criminal or terrorist acts that resulted in the death of civilians.

- A journalist by the name AfrahShawqi was kidnapped late December 2016 by an armed group that broke into her house wearing military uniform, upon public demands and pressure by civil society organization, Human Rights activists, journalists and Iraqi media she was released. HHRO issued a statement asking for the punishment of the perpetrators of this crime.
- The mother of (M, Q, H M), who is sentenced to death, visited HHRO's headquarters saying that her son was sentenced to death upon the accusation of murdering a military man in 2009, he was sentenced to death in 2012, but according to his mother's story; he confessed to the crime because he was tortured, mentioning that her family issued a request to the judiciary confirming that her son was tortured by a number of military personnel, the father attended the court but he was threatened and forced to withdraw the accusation and he did so fearing for the lives of his family members.

The family remains hopeful despite the ratification of the court of cassation of the execution order, and they hired a lawyer for this purpose, according to the mother; the lawyer talked to the president of the judicial authority to mitigate the sentence and he was given assurances in that regards, the mother said that the family is hopeful that her son will have another hearing to change the verdict because he was forced to give the confessions last time, referring to medical reports that confirm he was partially tortured but the reports didn't describe the condition in full details, according to the mother her son was tortured using electricity.

The family of (M, Q, H M) contacted the victim's family that asked for 100 million dinars in order to waive their rights but the family of (M, Q, H M) cannot pay such amounts of money.

HHRO appeals to the Iraqi Government to cancel the death sentence or at least mitigate the sentence and reduce the number of such sentenced; HHRO also condemns using torture to force prisoners to confess.

- According to different sources and media reports during 2016 stating that ISIS took the road of executions, they implement executions brutally and in public. In November in Hammam al-Alil area, 30 km southeastern Mosul, security forces found a mass grave during liberation operation that include between 50 and 100 corpses.

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- ISIS announced through its Diwan al-Hasba or (Moral Police Directorate) at its media channels that they conducted 27 executions of people accused of being homosexual, at least 9 of them were killed in Iraq. The main method used to execute them was by throwing them from high buildings.

Missing, Disappearing, Abduction and Murders:

Clashes with the Islamic State intensified in 2016, with operations to reconquer the city of Ramada in February, Fallujah in June and the launch of Mosul liberation campaign in October. As a result of heavy clashes more than 45,000 Iraqis were displaced since the 11th of November 2016.

HHRO monitored the situation conducting interviews with displaced from Ramadi and Fallujah, also with IDPs from Mosul and the Nineveh plain, they stated that ISIS abducted, murder and forced dozens of people to disappear, those who opposed its ideology and rule, also those who used to be in contact with Iraqi security forces or former police officers or members, in addition to former employees with at the electoral commission department or candidates for elections or other such as doctors, lawyers or journalists, in addition to tribal leaders and few clergymen, people killed by ISIS were accused of various things such as providing information or assisting Iraqi security forces. IDPs confirmed that ISIS used hundreds of people as human shields during battles.

HHRO was noticed that civilians escaping the battles in Fallujah were subject to violence and forced disappearance, different contradicting information exist about the identity of the perpetrators of these acts.

It is worth mentioning that there are dozens of people whom were subject abduction and forced disappearance and their fate hasn't been identified until this moment, HHRO keeps lists of these people, we informed the responsible bodies by sending official statements and requests to know the fate of these people but the answers we received indicate the lack of information about them. According to information provided to HHRO, all Ezidies and Christians reported kidnapped or missing after the invasion of ISIS of the Nineveh governorate, there are no confirmed information about their conditions. With regards to missing or kidnapped ones upon what happened in the governorate of Anbar during the last six months in 2016, there're contradicting information about their whereabouts, information that provide that armed militias drove them to unknown locations, while others say they were members of ISIS and escaped the areas liberated by the armed groups.

IDPs told HHRO they saw what happened in Fallujah, they saw that ISIS members forced families trying to escape the clashes to stay, they also murder and oppression practiced against the innocent residents of Fallujah, few families attempted to escape using one of the roads leading to Saqlawia sub-district, they were expecting the Iraqi army to welcome them on the other side but they were faced by armed militias instead and these militias arrested dozens of young and senior men, claiming they will hand them over to specialized forces to identify them. But the majority of these detainees, according to the same sources, disappeared and their whereabouts remain unknown until this day; according to information sent to HHRO, many of them were brutally killed and buried in mass graves, this happened without the knowledge of security forces responsible for the operations in Fallujah and its surroundings.

Sources provided the names of few people whom were lost and their whereabouts remain unknown, confirming that physical and psychological torture was used utilizing fire and knives,

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tortured until they faint and then die; which is what happened to citizen “Salam Nuri Mahmoud Alzobae”. The following are names of missing citizens whom whereabouts remain unknown:

1. Yas Mohammed Saleh
2. ThameenYas Mohammed
3. MufeedYas Mohammed
4. MajeedHlalMusleh
5. Imad Habib Saleh
6. Zyad Habib Saleh
7. Ahmad MajeedHlal
8. Mohammed Yas Mohammed

HHRO monitored with concern the disappearance of a number of activists during protests that continued during 2016 in the center of Baghdad and other Iraqi governorates demanding the end of corruption, exposing corruptors and asking the central government for reforms, that the fate of the activist Jalal al- Shahmani remains unknown and HHRO was unable to obtain any information to determine whether he is a live or not, and also activists and journalists were subjected to kidnapping, beating and abuses to suppress their voices for exposing corruption operations and deals and demanding reforms.

HHRO condemns these acts that limit rights and freedoms and represent a violation of the Iraqi constitution that guarantees freedom of protest, oppressing this freedom is a flagrant violation of Human Rights and a violation of Iraq’s international commitments with regards to international texts that protect Human Rights, HHRO requests from the responsible Iraqi authority to provide sufficient protection for peaceful protests and sit-ins while stopping aggression towards protesters and accountability for perpetrators of violence, we stress, again, the importance of revealing the names of detainees and prisoners of opinion and freedom of speech and releasing them immediately because protests are a licit appearance of democracy.

In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, HHRO was informed about the disappearance of an American citizen from an Iraqi origin, called Amanda Giovanni, early April 2016 in Ankawa, sources say that she was working as a facilitator for oil investment companies or in weapons trade, the same sources think that she was an expert in international trade and worked with influential people in this field, the common belief according to these sources is that Kurdish security forces (Asayish) detained her, HHRO couldn’t find information about the reasons that could cause that, or her whereabouts, especially that her relatives are located in the United States of America.

- (A, N, N, A, H): a young man born in 1998 was detained at a checkpoint located in the area of Razzazah which is in the province of Karbala on the 6th of January 2016, he was escaping from Mosul with his mother (H) and friend running away from ISIS, the 3 of them arrived to Razzazah using the Rutba-Ramadi road, at the checkpoint the two men were asked to come with the checkpoint officers, his friend was let go but he was detained and his mother was asked to leave and she doesn’t know what happened to him until this day, according to information stated by his

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friend both of them were under investigation, he was allowed to leave but they kept the (A, N, N, A, H), the mother (H) lives in Kirkuk currently.

- In the 13th of August 2016, journalist WedadHussien Ali was kidnapped in Duhok by unknowns who claimed they were with the Kurdish Security Forces, the same days few hours later he was found on the road between Duhok and Sumeel 15 km Northwest of Duhok, he was injured and moved to the hospital as a result, but he died soon after due to his injuries.

According to Human Rights Watch, he was subject to interrogation by the Kurdish Asayish numerous times during the 12 months before the abduction incident, and that he was threatened and warned numerous times by Asayish upon a series of articles criticizing the government authority in the region, Human Rights Watch demanded a full investigation, journalist WedadHussien was 29 years old.

- The 2nd of December 2016, the Metro Centre for the defense of journalists announced that the body of the journalist and photographer (Shukri Zain AldinRekani) was found, he used to work with KNN TV channel that is connected to the Movement of Change (Goran) in Amedi area northern Duhok, the causes of this incident are unknown and the no one has been detained. Shukri is a journalist photographer for a local channel in Kurdistan region who is born in 1973 and is a father to 9 children.

HHRO expresses its concern about the continues cases of murder of journalists in Iraq in general and in Kurdistan specially, while condemning these violations, HHOR points that Iraq ranks high among countries that are most threatening to journalists.

Hammurabi's information about murders and executions committed by ISIS:

According to information received by HHRO: that ISIS has been killed a number of citizens were killed by ISIS used to be residents of the village of (Alhaj Ali) in Hammam al-Alil sub-district. A list of their names:

1. Abd Allah Mohammed Muaed / handicapped and used a wheel chair, detained at 10:30 at night in September 2015 by ISIS militants whom were given intelligence about him by one of their agents accusing him of communicating with others outside the ISIS area of control, he was seen with mobile phone ear buds in his ears, his parents begged them to forgive him that he is handicapped and he used to call to check on his social welfare salary, but their begging didn't work, 4 months later a piece of paper was sent in January 2016 stating that he was killed by them (ISIS militants).
2. Aisa Osman Hussein Muaed / colonel, commander of the fourth regiment local police, arrested by ISIS on 20/10/2015, killed on 23/10/2015.
3. MuthannaAbdAlkarem Hussein Muaed / policeman, arrested by ISIS in 2016 in Mosul.
4. Ali Said HowazMuaed / policeman, arrested by ISIS and killed in 2016 in Mosul.
5. MunadelAbdAlwahid Hussein Muaed / policeman, arrested and killed in 2015 in Mosul.

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6. Salem FathiSarheed / retired lieutenant colonel, he opposed the ideas and behavior of ISIS militants, arrested by ISIS during Ramadan 2014, his whereabouts remain unknown.
7. Rafe' FathiSarheed / teacher, arrested by ISIS in 2014, his whereabouts remain unknown.
8. Muhammad Said HawasMuaed / local police officer (second lieutenant), executed by ISIS militants in 2014.
9. Ali HasanHawasMuaed / local police officer (second lieutenant), executed by ISIS militants in 2014.
10. BaraaAisa Osman Muaed / federal police officer, arrested by ISIS on 20/10/2015 with his father Issa Osman who was a colonel, his whereabouts remain unknown.
11. Saad Ali Torfa / member of the SWAT, arrested by ISIS in September 2014, his whereabouts remain unknown.
12. MuthannaFarajZaayan / member of the SWAT, arrested in August 2014, his whereabouts remain unknown.

A number of the residents of (Alhaj Ali) village were executed on 18/06/2016, they are:

1. Colonel HazimSarhan
2. Omar HazimSarhan Son of Colonel HazimSarhan
3. HazimSarhan daughter
4. Khatima (colonel's sister in law)

Those were killed when attempting to escape (Alhaj Ali) village towards the location of the Iraqi army during the liberation operations, ISIS militants found them and executed them then left their bodies unburied.

Three other civilians were executed on 15/06/2016 for the same reason, they are:

1. Saleh HamodatHasson
2. MuthannaAbdTaama
3. hasan Ahmad Khalil

General Services and the Economic Conditions:

The majority of Iraqis suffer from obvious lack in general services, especially electricity with random power cuts dominating the majority of Iraqi cities with Baghdad in the forefront, the Ministry of Electricity officials justify this using more than one excuse, one of them is frequent maintenance, fluctuating energy purchases from Iran, rise of temperature, theft of electricity and the families' use of many electrical devices that consume large amounts of electricity.

In other regards, employees and retirees in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region suffer from salary cuts, they are paid a quarter of their salary entitlements which means a cut of 75%, justifying this by the federal government dose not commit its financial obligations towards Kurdistan region.

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In the same context, the federal government in Baghdad took a number of measures for economic reform, measures described by employees and former ministers as unfair and that few were taken without sufficient study and research, as the economic situation imposed by low oil prices requires revision and expenditure rationalization, while so much money wasted by corruption hasn't been restored, moreover, all governorate's directorates announced that many projects have been stopped due to lack of continues funding.

Among the decisions identified as unfair is decision 333 adjusting employees and retirees salaries, the application of this decision represents a flagrant violation, especially against retirees who include former ministers whose salaries are cut fully or by a margin of 70%, although they challenged the difficult security conditions, offering sacrifices and being subject to danger and risk that continues while they continue to offer their services to the state in different fields, among them are those whom were victims of assassination attempts or their security members were killed or injured during these attempts, other had to emigrate or their families were divided because they had to send their children abroad due to lack of safety and stability in their areas of residence.

It's worth mentioning that the court of cassation found the decision above unconstitutional and contradicts with the law, because it's unfair due to manipulation of earned rights, especially what happened to former ministers who lose their description of a minister according to this decision meaning they lose earned rights as is the case in the rest of the world's countries, this decision affects their lives, the lives of their family members and their reputation, it also makes them subject to treatment that is substandard to their earned career status, while a number of them are being targeted, especially those who dedicated their live to serve Iraq while being among the opposition to the former regime. Moreover, a minister is an assigned person not an employee, thus the parliament and the government has to cancel decision 333 and restore the acquired retirement rights and reputation of ministers so they can continue contributing to serve their nation's affairs and live with dignity in their country.

Neglect and indifference towards this issue might expose them to additional pressure, harassment and even danger, because a number of them are forced to pay a higher rent than what the law says, in comparison with what they receive as a retirement salary which is very less that is to say, their pension is very less than the rent, which forces them to live in less safe areas where they might be in danger. If this issue is not addressed that could complicate the situation and contribute to creating a state of instability in the country, forcing these human energies to emigrate.

Hammurabi Human Rights Organization sees that reforming the economic situation according to recommendations promoted by the government wouldn't have positive outcomes because the ruling class kept and added to its privileges, which puts pressure on the Iraqi government's budget that increase the deficiency in the budget, in light of the low oil prices, another indication of Iraqi economic weakness is the absence of will and wisdom with regards to computation and potential deflation, therefore many development programs especially in rural areas has been disrupted, lack of development of agricultural resources and the absence of a consumers market causes heavy losses annually to farmers which demands proper compensation because the income of their crops doesn't cover the expenses of production.

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With regards to industry, addressing this subject remains out of governmental agendas while the private sector is suffering from deterioration forcing citizens to ask for employment in the public sector which is also weak, lacks opportunities for development and cannot cover millions of employees and army members, which made Iraq a country that is moving towards the militarization of the society, not only to continue its war on terrorism but also to seek sources of income for its citizens. In light of this major flaw, HHRO asks for the correction of the legal, administrative and political process, in order to stop violation endured by Iraqi citizens that target their basic rights, which is working for a free and dignified life.

Flagrant Violations against Minorities

First: Survivors from the Islamic State

- Survivor (J, A, D) is a Christian girl from Qaraqosh who was kidnapped by ISIS militants in the town of Nimrud which is located near Qaraqosh city, she was treated as a captive in Mosul then transferred to Syria, she was sold more than 18 times, violated physically and psychologically and was subject to violence without any consideration for her humanity. During an interview with HHRO she provided information about cruelty and crimes against humanity she had to endure, suffering that could not be described by words because it violates any human feeling and all happened in the name of Islamic religious principles, traders advertised her in captives markets in Mosul and Raqqa, taking her from one village to another in Syria to sell her, she suffered dozens but hundreds of sexual assaults, torture, beating, imprisonment and insults that continued starting from the date of her capture in August 2014 until she was freed in October 2016.
- HHRO conducted dialogues with survivor, talking to (H, M, A) born in 1930, (S, Z, H) born in 1963, (B, Z, H) born in 1965 and the child (M, B, B) born in 2007, they talked about the inhumanitarian behavior they had to endure living under the rule of the Islamic State in the Nineveh plain, they expressed their deep and continues fear that controlled their lives during the animalistic behavior of the members of the Islamic State after being forced to change their religion and convert to Islam.
- (Z, B, M) born 1939, is a Christian who remained in Hamdaniya (Baghdida) after the invasion of the Islamic State on 22/08/2014, she was accompanied by another women that suffers from disability, (Z, B, M) tells us how she spent months in territory controlled by terrorists who used to break into her house every now and then and search the house looking for valuables and money, she adds that ISIS militants often threatened to kill her and her friend, she used to go on the roof everyday praying to be liberated from her captivity, she used to live on whatever food and water they were given, she spent most of her time praying and never left the house, she used to watch them from the window while they walked around carrying their weapons and talking in different languages.

Answering the question: why did you stay in the city although all the residents escaped? She answered that she is an old woman and cannot walk long distances, mentioning that she had so much energy to be patient and trust in god and she knew that one day Baghdida will be liberated, stressing that she doesn't ask for anything after all she had to endure but to live a healthy life and find a safe place to live.

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Meeting a survivor who lived through the horror of crimes committed by ISIS militants against them in their home in Telkief

- (A, A, M) is a Christian young man who was in middle school, telling his story to HHRO, his tragedy when the gangs of ISIS arrested him and his mother in Mosul, how they transferred them to different towns including Sherekhan and Bazwaya, after keeping him in their headquarters for a full month, how he suffered when he and his mother were forced to convert to Islam, mentioning that he has been whipped three times and imprisoned because he didn't attend the Friday prayer, he was also forced to grow his beard and they took his mobile device and broke it in front of him so he lost communication with his family living outside Nineveh.

(A, A, M) adds that every week he was forced to take lessons on Islamic religion and other teachings he didn't know, threatened to be killed with his mother as well, confirming that they didn't know what life was until they were freed.

- Survivor (A, Q, M, M) said that he escaped from the village of (al-Haj Ali) located in (Hamam al-Alil) area, its population about 15 thousand, he escaped to Erbil upon the invasion of the Islamic State, after realizing that the only solution to escape their injustice is to escape without their knowledge, because if ISIS militants knew he was running away he would've been killed with his family, they had to escape in 2 stages. He adds: I thought about getting the family and children alone at first, then once I'm confident they arrived to Erbil I'd leave with one of my sons who'd stay with me, on 22/Feb/2016 my family and the children went towards the nearest Iraqi forces checkpoint, I stopped at about 15-17 km away so they could continue walking towards the Iraqi forces, when my family arrived to Erbil, on the 27th – 28th of Feb I escaped with my son utilizing the heavy raining through tunnels dug by ISIS militants as their first lines of defense, we walked for about 4-5 hours then we were in Erbil.

Mr. (A, Q, M, M) confirmed that it was more difficult to escape after the army's attempt to liberate the areas of (al-Haj Ali) villages which are 9 villages (KhirbatJabr, KhirbatShammam, AlboWawi, Alderbas, Almahal, Alhasiya [Haj Ali center], alkaram, AlosajaSharqi, AlosajaGharbi), ISIS militants started punishing residents that tried to flee by executing one of their relatives when they knew about their escape.

He adds that the only liberated villages in southern Mosul are Khirbat Shammam and KhirbatAlabd while the other 7 villages remain under the control of ISIS which built fortifications such as trenches, ISIS militants also prepared ambushes in the agricultural area to stop residents from fleeing their villages towards the river and then through the agricultural land to reach the locations

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of the Iraqi army, those who tried to escape were either killed or captivated, ISIS murdered four people (two women and two men) who tried to escape and their funerals were held in Erbil.

The survivor talked about the mechanism of communication with others in the villages and about the movement of the army, he said that many of the locals are fighters among the Tribal Mobilization Force, they provided the information about the security developments, also many of the residents of these villages live in Kirkuk and Erbil and are still in contact with them. Adding that he didn't leave Mosul since the invasion until 27/Feb/2016, with regards to the social, security, services and health conditions, he said that travel was forbidden unless in emergency conditions and when a member of ISIS as a guarantor, he tells when one of his sons was in a motorcycle accident and suffered fractures and nerve damage, he needed to be treated outside Mosul, after being shown to more than 5 doctors the medical reports confirmed them, one of those doctors was Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim Sabaawi who confirmed that he has a 30% chance of being treated and will have to pay 70 thousand euros and can only be treated in German hospitals, they tried a lot but ISIS militants didn't allow him to leave justifying that by saying that God can cure him and he is not better than the rest.

He confirmed that most ISIS militants in Hammam al-Alil are Iraqis, and the first line of their leaders are Arab Syrians, Libyans or Tunisians, in hospitals they saw foreigners such as Chinese, Vietnamese and other nationalities, they used nick names and not their real names, locals were in the second line of leadership. Iraqi ISIS militants whom were locals were tricked into joining ISIS, few of them had former relations with alQaida and were members of known families in the area. Mr. (A, Q, M, M) said that they were stunned upon after fall of Mosul revealing people whom they never expected to be radical and members of ISIS, even women who joined ISIS, not only men. When one of the relatives of these women was killed they celebrated because according to their creed he is a martyr and will go to heaven.

ISIS called the fighters that came from other countries Almuhajirin(the Immigrants), while the residents of Mosul and Raqqa were called Alansar (the patrons), Almuhajirin were priorities in society, rights, salaries, spoils of war and women takes as captives.

He confirms that the behavior of ISIS militants is shameful and inhumane, they put pressure on locals to abide by their dress code and grow beards, those who didn't abide by that was whipped, locals were also forced to attend prayers at the Mosque or they will be publicly whipped.

Women weren't in better conditions, they had to wear the Islamic dress called Khimar when they leave home, men had to cover the doors using a sheet of cloth so women aren't seen through, women are only allowed to leave their homes when necessary and must be accompanied by a guardian called (Mahram), the necessity has to be explained to members of the religious police, when women violate these rules their guardians will be whipped according to the violations, these unjust measurements are called Diyoon according to the description of ISIS.

With regards to the economic situation, it's quite bad, no salaries or money transfers are allowed, so cash isn't available any more, ISIS began imposing taxes for certain services such as electricity provided by electrical stations and generators, which became very dangerous and threatening to people's lives because after a year of bad electrical service every family had a quota of 5 amperes and they had to pay 15 thousand Iraqi dinars per month for electricity provided by governmental

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electrical stations and additional 3 thousand dinars for each ampere provided by a generator, if someone is caught using 10 ampere electricity they are punished and must pay a fine of 70 thousand Iraqi dinars and electricity will be cut from his home, in case he restores electricity without their knowledge then he will be detained and his fate will be unknown.

With regards to agriculture, it stopped for many reasons including lack of electricity that would help bring water to fields, in addition to lack of water, and having no economic benefit from trading to crops. Due to the difficult economic situation many residents had to sell their cars cheaply, their prices decreased to 1/5 of the real price and they had to pay a share of what they sell to ISIS.

- Survivor: (A, E, E, M) / born 1963

Social status: married to Mr. (F, H, E, A)

Profession: employee in Mosul

Children:

(A, F, h) – born 1989

(S, F, H) – born 1997 (six grade student) (stopped studying upon the invasion of ISIS)

(A, F, H) – born 2003 (fifth grade primary school) (stopped studying upon the invasion of ISIS)

Ms. (A, E, E, M) explains what happened to her and to others after the invasion of ISIS, terrorist forced families to marry their daughters to ISIS militants, her son (A, F, H) described how ISIS militants intervened in the personal lives of citizens and considered shorts forbidden, how they escaped when all the members of this family decided to go through with it despite the risk, upon a series of discussions they had a plan and took a taxi from their home located in Alzuhur neighborhood in Mosul to take them to another location in Mosul, they took only four bags with them. During the second attempt to escape they found three other families and now they were 18 people, at 3 AM next morning they were asked to enter an empty oil tank, there was a section below the oil tank that was divided by a metal roof from the tank itself, they were told not to move or talk because at ISIS checkpoints ISIS militants used a piece of metal to strike the tank in order to hear the sounds inside, thus the truck moved and at 10:30 pm that evening they arrived to the area of Dashisha and were taken in cars to Raqqa where they stayed for one night then all took a truck to the city of Manbij, it took them 4 hours to arrive there and stayed in an empty home there for a week, they only had bread, cheese, tomatoes and cucumber to eat, at the end of the week they were taken to the city of Izaz going through Alrai and Albab villages then they had to walk while carrying their luggage and only at night. Walking in an open area, during which the smuggler stopped and told them his task has been achieved and told them to move towards a light in distance, they did so and were welcomed by the Free Syrian Army, then moved to Turkey, it took them 6 attempt to enter turkey, only at night, they were caught by Turkish army 5 times and returned to Syrian borders, then a Turkish smuggler managed to bring them inside the town of KhirbatJoz then to Antioch and then to Ankara, a relative welcomed them in his apartment and they went to the Iraqi embassy that provided passports which helped them return to Iraqi, they stayed in Ankawa for 25 days until they were able to return to Erbil.

Second: Violations against Christians

2016 was similar to 2015 with regards to continuation of suffering of Iraqi Christians being subjects for murder and abduction in various Iraqi regions, in addition to the continuous suffering of IDPs from historical Christian areas in the Nineveh plain where they cities and towns of Baghdida, Bartella, Karemlash, Bashiqa, Bahzani, Telkief, Batnay, telskuf, Baqufa and Sharifa are located to Alqosh and other nearby villages and towns. The change happened when the liberation started in November 2016 with the liberation of Baghdida, Karemlash, Bartella, followed by the liberation of Bashiqa, Bahzani and other towns eastern Mosul, then Batnay and other villages in Telkief northern Mosul were liberated, but the center of Telkief remains unliberated. Despite the liberation efforts, the shock was harder to Christians who saw their liberated areas and homes burned and destroyed.

HHRO teams continue to monitor what happened in minorities' territories, destruction and such sort in areas of Christians or Ezidies or Shabak or Kaka'is in the Nineveh plain. With regards to Christian territories, they found that residential units, stores, factories, social structures and health and educational institutions were subject to destruction, looting and burning, HHRO's teams visited all liberated Christian towns and conducted documentation, estimating the amount of destruction to be more than 50% in these areas, when dividing damage into categories of total and partial destruction and burning, by depending on certain samples in the villages it was shown that the level of total destruction of buildings in Christians areas reached between (3-25%) and this is different in different locations, for example the percentage of totally destructed homes and residential units in Baghdeda (center of Hamdaniya) is approximately 3%, while in Bahzani is 20%, and in Batnay is 25%, but the percentage of burned buildings is between (20-45%) as HHRO's teams estimate the percentage of burned buildings in Bartella 20%, and 40% in Hamdaniya center and 45% in Bashiqa, partial destruction represented by destruction of doors and windows and looting, the percentage is between (60 – 80%), HHRO's teams estimate the highest percentage to be in Batnay and Bartella amounting to 80% while in Baghdeda, Karemlash, Bashiqa and Bahzani the percentage is between (60-75%).

This level of destruction created frustration among former residents of these areas, who amounted to more than 120 thousand people prior to the invasion of the Islamic State, many of them expressed to HHRO the difficulty they are faced to return and the lack of ability to fix their homes due to lacking money, others mentioned psychological reasons that prevent them from returning at the moment after they observed the destruction that reached their churches, homes and cemeteries during lack of security and losing their trust in the governmental security forces, the Peshmerga and the other military formations, because they left them to face the brutality of the Islamic State.

Few of those met by HHRO said clearly that they were planning to emigrate and never return, to join the continues influx of emigrants, in this regards, HHRO estimates that about 50% of Christian IDPs left the country during the last 3 years, HHRO noticed the number of IDPs decreasing in 2016 compared to their numbers in 2015 by about 1900 family which is about 10 thousand people, HHRO's statistics shows that the number of Christian displaced families from the Nineveh plain and Mosul in 2015 amounts to (15547) family which decreased in 2016 to reach (13645) family, this indicates that many are leaving from their places of displacement in Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah,

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most of whom are leaving the country. While HHRO didn't notice returning families excluding only 15 families that returned to Telskuf just recently, the majority of these families according to HHRO's sources are the families of the guards and the members of the militias present in the area, HHRO didn't see returnees among the people of Baghdeda, Karemlash, Bartella and Bashiqa.

For further explanation, you can look at the statistics below:

1. Christian families displaced from the Nineveh plain, Mosul and other areas to Erbil and the area of Ankawa amounts to (9438) family living in Caravan camps and rented houses by families and by the church.

N	Sect	Families	People
01	Syriac Catholic	5529	22009
02	Syriac Orthodox	2779	12142
03	Chaldeans	1130	4654
04	Assyrians and Armenians	-	-
05	Latins, Greek and Evangelicals	-	-
	TOTAL	9438	38805

2. Christian families displaced from the Nineveh plain, Mosul and other areas to the governorate of Duhok amount to (3707) family living in camps, villages and rented houses.

3. Christian families displaced to Sulaymaniyah amount to 300 families.

4. Christian families displaced to Kirkuk amount to 200 families.

The Total sum of families = 13645 family

- ❖ In 2015, the number of displaced families in these three governorates mentioned above amounted to 15547 families
- ❖ The number of displaced Christian families decreased during 2016 in the mentioned governorates by 1902 families which is almost 10 thousand people

- Two Christian young men (Ameer KhudrYonanNafee; displaced from Baghdeda and Sinan Sameer; displaced from Baqufa) were assassinated and another young Christian man was injured (ThaerNaeemHabeel) in Alghadeer neighborhood/Maysaloun Square at 08:15 sharp in 23/12/2016 in front of a liquor store eastern Baghdad.

- the people of Telskuf and Baqufa continues to be displaced "Northern Nineveh plain", wishing to live in their liberated towns, which were liberated 2 years and 4 months ago, they wish to return but the series of encroachments continues in these two towns, looting of private and public property and destruction of the electrical grid and the water pumping station, many electricity poles that are 9 or 12 meters long disappeared with the copper wires that link them, these acts are committed during the control of security checkpoints run by Kurdish security and other officials, the area was invaded by ISIS militants in 3/5/2016 and this invasion resulted in the destruction and burning of many houses.

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HHRO received complaints from the people of Telskuf town confirming the looting of large water pumps which used to be part of Telskuf water project after its liberation, also parts of the electrical adaptors were lifted using heavy machinery, in addition to the destruction of the water pipes coming from wells dug earlier, sources confirmed that activists and former residents of these areas aren't allowed to visit their homes every now and then, unless they have filed requests to enter the city and waited many weeks, any citizen isn't allowed to carry cameras in order to stop the documentation of the robbery and the violations, the Kurdish security also stopped an activist whose name wouldn't be mentioned by HHRO, he was kept in their custody for many hours and threatened more than once to stop his human rights activities against who violated his rights.

- HHRO's cameras recorded sad scenery of destruction and robbery in Batnaya, according to our estimations and level of destructions reaches 80% , destruction and burning is greatly seen in the church of st.Qaryakos in the town.



Churches in the Nineveh plain

On 25/10/2016, at 09:30 PM, the Christian citizen (NizarElyasJajjiAlqosPetrus) was assassinated, he was a resident of Qaraqosh and was assassinated in the city of Basrah, born in 1969, married and has 5 children (3 daughters and 2 sons), he was killed 3 days after the ratification of a legislation by the parliament that bans trade, import and manufacture of liquor ..the victims used to own a liquor store in Basra.

- the whereabouts of the kidnapped child Christine AzoAbada remains unknown since she was taken by an ISIS militants from her Mother Aida Hanna on 22/08/2014 during displacement from Baghdada city (Hamdaniya), after the invasion of ISIS, confirmed information provided that the militants who took the child, known as Ibrahim, is from Mosul and threatened to kill the mother if she didn't leave the child.

HHRO tried for months to get the number of the militants from the people of Mosul, he was contacted and when asked about Christine he said he had her, when asked to speak to her mother he replied "she is sleeping" and hang up

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Christine was 3 years old when she was kidnapped by the terrorist thus she is 5 years old now, HHRO announced that Christine is the star of 2015 upon a wide questionnaire conducted in this regard.

HHRO continues to monitor the conditions of missing Christians in areas controlled by ISIS, discovering that a number of men, women and children remain suffering under the control of ISIS, in addition to what was mentioned in the past year's report, this is a list of their names:

N	Full Name	Date of birth	Social Status	Details
1	TalalAbdAlghaniNaserBehnamSabti	1956/12/22	married	<p>From the people of Mosul, used to live in the Alsaa neighborhood near the Latin church, due to raising issues against minorities, particularly Christians, his family left Mosul on 29/9/2013 and moved to the city of Qaraqosh (Hamdaniya), where the family rented a house near St. Georgis church for Syriac Orthodox. In the morning of 6/8/2014, prior to the fall of the area in the hands of ISIS, the family fled towards Erbil and to Ankawa, but the father who is Mr. Talal refused to leave saying that ISIS will not enter the city.</p> <p>The family of Mr. Talal stayed in contact with him through the phone after the fall of Qaraqosh on 7/8/2014, he was trying to escape but ISIS militants didn't allow him to do so.</p> <p>Seven days later, AbdAlghani called his family saying that ISIS gathered all remaining Christians near the health center located in Alaskari neighborhood near the mosque, they took all their mobile phones, when his family tried to call him after that nobody answered, then a message arrive through the phone saying that "This is the Islamic</p>

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				State, don't call this number again". Since then there are no news about Mr. TalalAbdAlghani.
2	HanniMatti Ibrahim Al Kanon	1930/7/1	Widow	From the people of Bartella, an old woman who stayed in her home in Bartella and no news exist about her.
3	SihamZaki Hanna	1962	Widow	From Bartella, is the daughter of Ms. HanniMatti Ibrahim, stayed in the city after the invasion of ISIS
4	BasimaZaki Hanna and her daughter (Meriam)	1960	married	From the people of Zakho, she was visiting her mother Ms. HanniMatti Ibrahim with her daughter Meriam who was 6 years old, coming from Zakho, that's when Bartella was invaded by ISIS and she stayed with her mother, no news exist about her or the child until this moment.
5	(MeriamPolus)	6 years old	child	Stayed with her mother Ms. BasimaZaki Hanna in Bartella at her grandparents' house; Ms. HanniMatti Ibrahim
6	Maher MattiKriko and his wife: BernadetteShayaBaniBaqtar	1965	married	From the people of Telkief, a handicapped man who is unable to move
7	BernadetteShayaBaniBaqtar	1964	married	From the people of Qaraqosh, married to Mr. Maher MattiKriko from Telkief, stayed with her handicapped husband to serve him because he couldn't move and they couldn't flee Telkief and their whereabouts are unknown until this day
8	Georgette MattiKriko	60 years old	Widow	From the people of Telkief, stayed in telkief with her handicapped father when ISIS invaded the city, their whereabouts remain unknown
9	KhudrMajeedAnay			From Qaraqosh, lost after the fall of the city on 7/8/2014.
10	NahrainYokhanees Jo	1967	Girl	From Mosul, used to work in a clothes factory in Almansour neighborhood in Mosul, information indicate that ISIS forced her to convert to Islam and no news exist about her
11	Mary GibrailYoussif Abo Ghazala	1955	House wife	Widow of Mr. AntoanKhudrHababa, she is from Mosul – Almansour neighborhood
12	AlaaAntoonKhudrHababa	1983	Single	From Mosul, son of Ms. Mary GibrailYoussif Abo Ghazala, used to work in a factory
13	SarmadAntoonKhudrHababa	1986	single	From Mosul, son of Ms. Mary GibrailYoussif Abo Ghazala, used to work in a factory
14	RanaAntoonKhudrHababa	1989	Single girl	From Mosul, son of Ms. Mary GibrailYoussif Abo Ghazala, used to

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				work in a factory
15	SaadPetrusMalko			From Sinjar, remains missing since the fall of Sinjar on 3/8/2014
16	DawoodAbdAlmaseehGeorgis			From Sinjar, remains missing since the fall of Sinjar on 3/8/2014
17	NajeebMallallah			From Sinjar, remains missing since the fall of Sinjar on 3/8/2014
18	AdeebKhudrAissa	1937	married	From Mosul, retired and used to live in Alshifaa neighborhood with his wife (Najiba), remains missing.
19	Najiba		married	From Mosul, wife of Mr. AdeebKhudrAissa, used to live in Alshifaa neighborhood with her husband, remains missing
20	ArkanSliwaMattiHannoni		married	From Bartella, remains missing

- the Christian citizen (L, R, K) was kidnapped on 3/4/2016 near a checkpoint in Alshaab neighborhood in Baghdad, the area of Mohammad al-Sakran, he was let go on 10/4/2016 after paying aransom of 90 thousand dollars, according to HHRO's information; he used to work as a driver for a private company that deals in liquor transport between Iraqi cities, when he was kidnapped there were 5 other trucks near the truck he was driving but the kidnappers didn't seem to care about the remaining drivers. HHRO couldn't figure out the reason the kidnappers choose Mr. (L, R, K) and not the other drivers.

- According to a human rights activist called (R, B); citizen (A, H, A) was kidnapped on 21/5/2016 in Alriad neighborhood in Baghdad at 11 PM, he was release after paying a ransom.

- Dobiri village in the area of Nahla was subject to airstrikes by Turkish warplanes on 6/5/2016, the airstrikes hit a number of houses which spread fear around its residents, few of them were IDPs who took refuge in that village after the invasion of ISIS, one of the houses that was damage is the house of Mr (AhiqarYoukhanna) which was inhabited by a displaced Christian family from Qaraqosh that includes 7 members including 5 children.

- HHRO continues to follow the case of a Christian family living in Sharwani neighborhood in Erbil, they were subject to harassment and assault previously by their neighbors, these assaults continues despite the appeal of HHRO to the government agencies of the Kurdistan government to interfere, moreover, their right to place a complaint was taken from them by forcing them into withdrawing it and forcing them to pledge that they wouldn't attack their assaulters or file any complaints against them again.

Third: Christian lands and properties

The issue of forcefully occupied houses and properties of Christians remains unsolved in Baghdad, HHRO continues to monitor and follow this issue and cases of a number of houses that have been mentioned in previous reports, HHRO discovered that many of these cases remain stuck, according to Dr. FauziPetrusPolus Ban whose house if forcefully occupied in Alwaziria in Baghdad, house number (3/3/163) and is 336 square meters, the people that occupy his house refuse to go out despite trying to work through the court and asking for help from security forces in Baghdad to act

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according to decision (101) issued by Minister's council that gives the right to use limited power to empty forcefully occupied houses of Christians without going through courts, it was clear to HHRO in December 2016 that his neighbor who was assigned by Dr. Fauzi as the legal representative of the house during the sectarian tension period in Baghdad is the man who occupies the house and has manipulated the lied in order to claim that he bought the house. At the end the case ended with a bargain to sell the house cheaply, quarter of its worth, but the neighbor offered only 1/20 of that money at the end and Dr. Fauzi refused to take that money and the case remains unsolved until this day, security forces failed to restore the rights of the rightful owner of that property.

In this regard, Dr. Isam George – owner of a house in Karrada – situated in front of a police station, street 27, house 16/1/15, during HHRO's monitoring of the case of his house, he confirmed that he accompanied the security force tasked with giving a warning to the occupiers of the house, but they continue to procrastinate so his house remains occupied and his rights taken until this moment.

In this regards, HHRO read the explanation issued by the Assyrian National Party and Alwarka Democratic List and Abnaa Al-Nahrain Entity about the violations in the village of Hazar Jot which is part of the series of violations and occupations of lands in Christian villages in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

With the deterioration of this issue that raised from the demographic change and especially in the area of Nahla, during a period of difficulty and the encroachments that continued for more than a month. Many communications and calls were made with different parties. These communications resulted in formed a special committee by Kurdistan's House of Ministers to address this issue.

Representatives of Christians in the KRG's parliament took the role of submitting the necessary papers and documentations to the committee, they also suggested, as a first step, to begin by addressing the encroachments in the area of Nahla and the village of Hazar Jot because the encroachments there are easy to be solved.

After a short period of time, the Christians representatives in the KRG's parliament were informed by the committee that, according to the issued statements, the issue is very complicated and cannot be solved through the parliament and is sent to the presidency to be addressed, the presidency decided to address this issue by forming another special committee.

On 19/4/2016, the committee began working in the village of Hazar Jot ... meeting the residents and the notables of the village, Christian organizations mentioned in the explanations above pointed out that the committee was closer to the violators than to the people who owned the official ownership documents, which made the delegation that represented the violated village to withdraw from the negotiations, after that there were attempts by local officials of the sub-district of Rovia and the district of Bardarash, it was proven that they were more flexible than the sent committee to solve the issue, they promised the owners of the lands to find a solution. In this regard, the residents of the village of Nahla were stopped from going to Erbil to participate in a protest which was set to be launched on 12/4/2016 at 11:30 AM in front of the parliament of the KRG to demand a solution for the encroachments against their lands and to stop the ongoing demographic change which is supervised by influential Kurds in those areas.

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On 27/7/2016, the people of Nahla were subject to a violation that was represented by cutting the electrical grip feeding the village by Kurdish groups from the village of Bakerman after a number of bulldozers removed the illegal buildings built on the lands of Nahla.

Those Kurdish groups cut the road leading to Nahla which forced Christian residents of that village on 26/7/2016 to ask for the help of the police and the local authorities to return to their homes in the village.

- There are dozens of cases of encroachments against lands and properties of Christians that remain unsolved for dozens of years, hundreds of acres of land and property confiscated by the former regime that belonged to Christians in Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah, lands that haven't been restored to its rightful owners, few of these lands belong to churches, while a number of owners of agricultural lands in Ankawa whose lands were used to build the airport and for investment claim that they didn't receive compensation for their properties. HHRO received data from trusted Christian parties providing information about encroachments in more than 50 Christian villages that covers vast agricultural land and the cases of these encroachments remain unsolved, lands encroached upon by influential and tribal notables or people supported by local authorities, the majority of these lands are owned by Christians and they left the lands due to war or military operations witnessed in the KRG during the rule of the former regime and when they were displaced to big Iraqi cities such as Baghdad, Mosul, Kirkuk, Basrah and others, when they returned after the change in 2003 they found their lands and villages occupied by others. For example: the village of (Bidaro in Zakho) the municipality of Zakho and a number of Kurdish tribal notables control the village and all its agricultural lands since 1992.

Moreover, there is a number of Christian villages in the Silivani valley northwestern Duhok that were occupied by the former regime's Iraqi government in order to undertake demographic change in the area and house Arabs there, but the Arab occupiers left the area after the seizure by Kurdish forces in 1991 and few of these villages were returned to their Christians owners while the rest remain under the control of Kurdish influencers and officials, the cases of many of these villages remain unsolved. For example: the various attempts of Christians to restore the Christian lands of the village Qarawella (Western Zakho) failed, lands controlled by influential Kurds since 1992.

The violations of the rights of the people of the Christian village of Dayrabun continues, the village is located near the Syrian borders and western Zakho, the government of the former regime established a residential building containing about 200 houses in the lands of Dayrabun allocated for Arabs, upon the retreat of the Arab forces from that area in 1991, Ezidies were moved to that area to occupy the houses and a number of them came from other areas and forcefully took additional lands that belongs to Dayrabun.

In the area of Barwari which is part of Zakho district, citizens from the village of KaniMasi said that there lands were taken and allocated for the establishment of projects without the knowledge of the people of the village, also the people of the Christian village of chaqala suffer from encroachments by the residents of the Kurdish village of Berifka who forcefully occupies more than 10 acres since 1991 and the encroachment continues without any acts by the government to bring justice for the owners of those lands. While the owners of the lands are banned from building in their own lands, in the district of Amedi; hundreds of villages and agricultural acres are forcefully

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taken, in the village of Enishki, for example, there were agricultural fields and lands taken by the former regime and today are registered in the name of the KRG's Ministry of Finance, also there are hundreds of residential lands in these villages that are forcefully occupied by Kurds who live in neighboring villages. The same issue can be observed in the village of Zafinki, while a mosque is being built in the lands of Dawoodiya. Lands in the village of Balijani are also taken where houses are being built by Kurds who occupied the lands without the approval of the owners and against their will.

This type of encroachments can also be found in the village of Hamziya in the district of Amedi, where lands are forcefully taken and a mosque is being built there, Christian complains and objection is being ignored, the water of the village is also controlled since 1991 by tribal leaders that are influential. The encroachments continue despite appeals and demands by the owners of these villages that reached the government of the region without any actions being taken to address the deteriorating situation.

The same issue can be observed in the village of Mezi in Amedi district where the residents of the village provided information to HHRO denied what was said that "the people of the village sold their lands to Kurds", it seems like encroachments and violations continue while administrative channels of the KRG aren't listening, despite numerous calls from the owners of violated lands. Dozens of villages in the area as is that case in Barwari Bala remain subject to encroachments without official actions to end this old but continuing phenomenon. All these encroachments represent one of the main reasons for Christian emigration which is considered as a systematic policy to encourage emigration that feeds the loss of hope and trust in the mentioned authorities.

Fourth: Violations against Ezidies

HHRO received information, on a certain level of credibility, about the conditions of the Ezidi component of the Iraqi society in 2016, certain information gathered by monitoring conducted by HHRO's activists and other communication conducted by the organization with Ezidi activists, in general the information are worthy of documentation accordingly:

Activists revealed to HHRO, who visited Sinjar, that the mass graves resulted by massacres carried out by ISIS terrorists are subject to tampering, in addition having stray dogs dragging few bodies, these activists appealed to authorities to protect the mass graves and preserve the sanctity of the bodies of the martyrs, pointing out that tampering the graves is ongoing.

- an Ezidi citizen called Dawood Shammo, owner of Baghdad hotel in the capital Baghdad, was abducted on 24/11/2016 by gunmen who used a 4 wheel drive vehicle. 2 days later he was released, no information are available whether he paid a ransom before being released or otherwise.

- according to Ezidi sources, more than 40 Ezidi children whom were detained by ISIS have survived, they were subject to brainwashing, they live now with their families taking refuge in Sharia in Duhok, the children are prone to violence and radical ISIS-like behavior when acting with their mothers and the members of other families, they were doing what ISIS militants used to do when looking to a woman and what was expected from a woman in their point of view, describing her of being shameful and must be covered. These sources confirmed that their families are appealing to

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whomever can save their children from this tendency of fundamentalism and rebuild their psychology through awareness programs to “re-brainwash” them from any damage done during the control of the terrorists and before their escape.

- We were assured that a number of Ezidi mothers and children were killed during 2016 by ISIS militants because mothers refused to give up their children to ISIS gunmen and because children cried continuously when taken away from their mothers.

- Ezidi activists confirmed to HHRO that:

A number of IDPs living in Aisiyan camp situated in (Shikhan district – Baathrasubdistrict) protested on Friday 24/6/2016 exposing the suffering they live everyday due to high temperatures and continues electrical outages

Sources mention that protestors did more than one protest per day and used to gather in front of the camp’s administration office, the camp contains more than 3003 tent occupied by Ezidi IDPs from Sinjar, Bashiqa and Bahzani and they used to protest from 9 am to the evening, the last protest resulted in violence due to having an administration that didn’t respond to their demands in providing enough electricity to protect them from heat and alleviate their suffering, few protesters broke the glass of the caravans used by the administration by throwing rocks at them, the camp’s administration called security forces (Asayish) which searched the camp and detained a number of young men, about 37 according to sources, HHRO couldn’t confirm whether these young men were released or not.

- HHRO received a report from an Ezidi Human Rights Activist saying that a displaced young man called MerzaBarakatQasim, born 1989 and one of the residents of Southern Sinjar in Rambosi village, was kidnapped near Sharia complex which is part of Duhok governorate and his body was found on 16/6/2016 near the village of Sina Sheikh Khudr, according to information from his relatives; he left with an amount of money to buy a car upon a phone call he received. HHRO also observed cases of murder and abduction of Ezidies, Christians and Shabak in different areas across Iraq, also assaults and violations of other Iraqis, for more information:

- The murder of the Ezidi citizen (SleemQasimKhudaida) / born 1996 / killed on Saturday 14/5/2016 / according to sources he was killed by a Kurdish armed force called (RojaVa) which is a Kurdish force from Syria, the killed citizen is from the village of Khanasur.

- The murder of the EzidiWaseemAbd in Baghdad after being kidnapped and murdered on 27/2/2016 despite his family paying 200 thousand dollars as a ransom / he used to live in Aljami’a neighborhood in Baghdad.

- 4000 Ezidi remain prisoners of the Islamic State, the majority are women and men, many attempts failed to know their fate by using intermediaries.

- The information also provide that the process of raping and selling Ezidi and Christian women continues for the third year, this process continues in the Syrian city of Raqqa where more than 3300 women and young girls are captives and sex slaves, this phenomena decreased in Mosul due to military operation to liberate the city, different information say that the majority of ISIS prisoners in deserted areas are Izidies.

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- Ezidi activists stress that there is international indifference towards the issue of Izidies from Sinjar, the issue of the residents of these city being target to many forms of extortion and exploitation.
- Ezidi activists complain that the majority of officials responsible for Sinjar aren't connected to this case directly, therefore only about 7% have returned to the city after expelling ISIS from the city, while thousands of families live in camps.
- A number of Iraqi areas, which are home to Ezidies, still remain unliberated especially Southern part, the Northern liberated side of Sinjar saw the return of 30 thousand Ezidi out of 400 thousand who used to live there before the invasion of ISIS.
- the majority of IDPs living in the area of Sinjar mountain are afraid to move away from it because they fear of the return of ISIS.
- Trusted information received by HHRO stated that more than 30 Ezidi children were murdered by ISIS during 2016.
- electricity service fluctuates, the city gets only about 1 hour of electricity per day, in addition to lacking health and medical services, while health conditions and in continues deterioration in Ezidi displacement camps or to Ezidies who returned to their homes.
- HHRO was assured to more than 100 thousand Izidi left Iraq during the past 3 years, as a result of Human Rights violations targeting them. More than 15 thousand Ezidi live in turkey where they stay in different camps in Midyat, Nusaybin, Batman and other areas southern-eastern Turkey, HHRO monitors mentioned that the camps in Midyat are almost like detentions and Ezidi refugees are only allowed to leave for specified hours, long leaves need complicated approvals, any delay in returning to the camp and the refugee isn't allowed to enter the camp.

Adding that Ezidies outside the camps are under the mercy of the PKK and they pay the price of the conflict between the PKK and the Turkish authorities, refugees often receive expired food as aid, HHRO's sources added that Ezidi refugees in Batman camp were transferred to Diyarbakır by the PKK, then the Turkish Emigration Directorate managed to bring them back but when they returned they realized that their tents and food supplies were stolen.

Ezidies living in these camps confirmed that UNICEF is providing aid to children younger than 13 years old through Turkish organizations, for example the organization of IMPR, but they explained that this aid doesn't reach many families that have children, pointing out the presence of corruption and robbery, confirming that there are 20 families in Batman camp that are eligible for the UNICEF's grant for children that amounts to 150 Turkish pounds, but they weren't given the required card to receive the grant, they also pointed out that Ezidi families have reached Australia but their share of aid continues to be given to other people outside the camp, while others who live in the camp are deprived from aid.

Therefore, HHRO encourages and appeals to the Iraqi government, the United Nations, the European Union and the International Alliance in Iraq to accelerate the process of delivering urgent aid and reconstruction of residential buildings in Sinjar and the neighboring villages so that Ezidies don't have to suffer from the results of Genocide anymore and return to their homes after providing security and safety and upon the end of the invasions of the Islamic State, of course, the

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main priority has to be guaranteed security and safety to have families return from abroad as well to Iraqi, whether these Iraqis are Ezidies, Christians or other damaged Iraqi components.

- A number of Ezidies told HHRO that they were prevented from bringing enough food supplies, including sugar, rice and other food supplies, to their villages in Sinjar, they added that security checkpoints and especially those located in FayshKhabur (Western Zakho) only allows small amounts of food supplies to pass, which isn't enough for the daily needs of those returned to their homes in Sinjar. Ezidies from Sinjar complained to HHRO about the strict and complicated security measures in order to allow cattle to be taken to Sinjar villages, this minimizes the opportunity and discourages people from returning home.

- Ezidi people and trusted sources told HHRO that Ezidies returning to Sinjar are paying for the conflict between the different armed groups in Sinjar and its surroundings, while confirming that vast territory remains controlled by ISIS, especially in the Southern areas, while the forces of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (Roshava), other forces called Popular Protection Forces (YPG) which is part of the PKK party, in addition to the Sinjar Resistance Units YBŞ, have managed to form some sort of an autonomy in certain geographic areas, not to forget the forces of Ezidkhan. The differences between these forces and the differences between their leaders creates a difficult humanitarian situation in the area, Sinjar residents fear conflicts between these forces, this reason is one of the main fears of Ezidies from returning to their liberated lands. In a related context, Ezidies living in areas controlled by the YBŞ forces which established some sort of an autonomy in the form of cantons that provides administrative, municipal and security services in a specific geographic territory in Sinjar, these Ezidies are subject to threats according to the claims of Ezidies that informed HHRO of this situation, and that their properties are being confiscated and then sold; Mr. (H, KH, R) from the residence of Khanasur complex, received a phone call from Shingal canton official, who is from Khanasur village as well, on 28/7/2016, telling him that they must return in a month to Sinjar otherwise their properties and houses will be confiscated and offered to be sold in a public auction and the money will be given to the municipality, Mr. (H, KH, R) confirmed that he isn't the only person that received such a threat, the majority of IDPs in the KRI who are from the same village have received a similar phone call, he adds that it's impossible to return currently as long as the area is being controlled by people with political agendas and that the area is subject to conflicts between various Kurdish groups, "it's certain, in light of these conditions, that we will be either detained or killed", adding "we wish we can return to our region and to live in peace and security".

Fifth: Violations against Turkmen

What happened to Shia Turkmen left a impact in the worlds conscience due to the Genocidal crimes exercised by ISIS against them, in addition to brutal murders and destruction that took place in their areas and ISIS's use of heavy weaponry and chemicals against them, dozens of victims were the result of that including women and children in the town of Taza for example which is located in Kirkuk governorate.

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Images from report of Al-Malalt Relief Society Organization – Non-governmental Iraqi Turkmani organization

Sixth: Violations against Shabak:

- On 2/May/2016, the Shabaki citizen (Mohammad TahaGeorgis) from the village of “Barima” which is located in Bashiqa sub-district, was killed by ISIS groups claiming that he didn’t abide by the teachings of the Islamic State because terrorists used to order owners of harvesters not to operate them after 1 PM, but the murdered citizen challenged that and harvested his crops which angered ISIS groups so they killed him using a sniper which resulted in his fall under the tires of the harvester he was driving ... it is worth mentioning that he left his village Barima because the village was subject to daily bombardment and took refuge in the village of Fadiliya, he was a father to 4 children.
- Sources confirmed that a number of Shabak villages (Kanona, Baibokht, Aldarawish, Barima) were partially destroyed during the war against ISIS and the exchanged fire between the forces in Zalkan sub-district and the terrorist groups of ISIS, in addition to airstrikes by the international alliance, which resulted in the destruction of dozens of houses in these villages.
- Shabak citizens informed HHRO that their homes and agricultural fields were razed in the district of Hamdaniya upon the liberation from ISIS, HHRO observed documents and images confirming their claims.

Seventh: Violations against Kaka’is:

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- It must be mentioned that the Kaka'I Iraqi minority has suffered from additional violations at the hands of armed groups and ISIS and many of them were murdered:
 - the Kaka'I Iraqi citizen HawriQasim Mubarak was assassinated, unknown gunmen surprised him in this stores in Banja Ali neighborhood in Kirkuk on the evening of 22/12/2016, they shot him and left the area, Kaka'I activists told HHRO that violations against them were also committed by outlaws and terrorists and targeted this Iraqi component.
 - the Kaka'I citizen Salar Baba was abducted between the village of SalimanBk and the village of Amerly on 16/2/2016 by the Turkman Popular Mobilization Units, 4 days after he was released due to pressure and influence of different parties.

Eight: Violations against SabeenMandaeans

During a campaign of threats, abductions and robbery witnessed in Baghdad and other governorates against SabeenMandaeans, HHRO recorded numerous crimes and violations against them:

- the SabeenMandaean citizen Sami KhafifZmamAlzuhairi, who resides in Kirkuk, said that on 27/11/2016, he was attacked by an armed group driving a dark gray BMW while he was driving his car with his bother heading towards the road that leads to the Mandaean temple while carrying a bag with 3.5 kg of 21 carat gold, in addition to 30 thousand dollars.
- citizen (F, T) was subject to beating and humiliation on 27/6/2016 by a group of Kirkuk Asayish after being detained, marks of beating was clear on his body, he was thrown in prison for 2 days and then released.
- the SabeenMandaean citizen WisamImad, 27 years old, was robbed on the main road to Ali'lam neighborhood in his store at 8:30 AM on 22/6/2016, gunmen stole 1.75 kg of pure 21 carat gold, he went to the police station but was later surprised when a gunmen broke into his home and threatened him to withdraw the complaint, otherwise they'd kill his father and kidnap his son which forced him to withdraw the case and emigrate.
- the Mandaean citizen YoussifAskar who resides in Diala province, the district of Maqdadiya, was threatened on the phone to pay 20 thousand dollars or be killed or his children be kidnapped which forced him to move to Baghdad, he was threatened on 9/2/2016 and left the district on 15/5/2016, the local police were inform of the incident but measures are substandard.
- In Husseinieh, Baghdad: the SabeenMandaean called Jameel and his two sons Aamer and Fadi were kidnapped, the father was released first to bring the ransom of 70 thousand dollars so the children could be released, then they were released after the ransom was given.
- a Mandaean was assaulted in the Fourth police market in Baghdad, he was insulted and called with sectarian and profane words by a young man who is 26 years old, while the Mandaean man was 65 years old, and he was subject to this assault because the young man knew that Mandaeans are a peaceful sect and they have no tribes or armed groups to protect them from such assaults and that there's no law to protect such tiny minorities from attacks, the assault took place on 22/5/2016 in front of many Mandaeans.

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- Four jewelry stores that belonged to Mandaean were robbed in a small market in the area of Husseinieh in Baghdad, the robbery took place at night on Thursday and at 2 AM on Friday on 20/5/2016, security forces were informed and an investigation is ongoing.

Names of robbed goldsmiths and the amounts stolen

1. Adnan SahnTaaban / (5-7) KG of gold + 5 million Iraqi dinars
2. Faisal Ghazi Shati / broken shop but the robbers could not break into the safe
3. Ali LaftaAbd / 7.250 kg of gold
4. SaleemFarhanDakhel/ 5.800 kg of gold + 150 thousand dollars + 5 million Iraqi dinars

Ninth: Violations against Blacks

The Black Iraqi citizens living in Zubayr district in Basrah are subject to threats and displacement under the pretext of judicial orders, these citizens used to live in the areas of Alseeba, Dora, Muamera, Dweeb and others, but the former regime forced them to leave their homes and agricultural lands because of military operations during the Iraqi-Iranian war, houses owned by Saudis were opened to house them, but an Iraqi who claims he is the legal representative of these Saudis proving that with documents is demanding to have the houses emptied according to judicial orders, the issue is that these citizens are poor and cannot afford to look for other homes and they ask the government to intervene to help them solve the issue in a way that would guarantee the rights they lost years ago, they also didn't benefit from article 140 of a law issued in 2005 that includes compensating those damaged by unfair laws and policies adopted by the former regime.

- citizen OmairAbdAlrazzaq lives in a house that is owned by a Saudi, he suffered from the same violation of being asked to empty the house he lives in which is located near Alnajara mosque in Zubayr.

- citizen Rajab works as a porter, he died in 10/10/2016 due to renal inflammation after 24 years of working as a porter for a merchant, the issue is that he doesn't own a house and his family is now threatened of being homeless and hungry because they have no breadwinner.

- citizen AbbodAshorJauhar: his house was burned 4 years ago killing his mother, his case can be concluded by saying that he is unable to get official papers to replace the burned papers.

- the family of the prisoner NuriMuhsen suffers from poverty, he was sentenced to 25 years in prison, his family remains without a breadwinner or a source of income, the issue is that this prisoner suffered during the former regime as his ears were cut off because he didn't abide by the compulsory military service, the weird thing is that he wasn't compensated in 2003 as others were given proper compensation after the fall of the former regime.

Other Violations:

- Babylon Media Company contacted HHRO informing us of vandalism targeting their building by a group of young men during the Nowruz celebration of 2016 in Chavi Land Park in Sulaymaniyah, the company added that what happened wasn't expected because the company is independent and

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doesn't belong to any partisan or institutional entity and worked for 10 years abroad in Holland and its media activities covered celebrations in France, Germany, Belgium, Finland and Sweden.

Mentioning that the company decided to offer its services to its country thus decided to return to Iraq in 2005.

- HHRO received a complaint from Shaaub for Democracy Institution located in Baghdad, Palestine road near the University of Almustansiriya on the morning of 17/9/2016, sent by the civil activist Mr. Saeed YassienMussa.

Stating that a number of employees of the organization arrived on 17/9/2016 to the organization and found the kitchen door broken in a weird way and that unknown broke into the organization office, they also found that the door of the information room was also broken and that hard drives were stolen including databases in addition to a personal laptop and a digital camera.

- citizen (F, T) was beaten and insulted on 27/6/2016 by Kirkuk Asayish units, he was detained for being suspect of using counterfeit currency, while he receive his salary as an IDP and went to cash it at one of the money exchange offices in Kirkuk, he was detained for 2 days and then released, HHRO observed signs of torture on his body.

Violations in tribal areas:

The majority of Civil Society Organizations sees that the Tribal Law will strongly contribute to strengthening the authority of narrow-minded tribal practices. Which devalues the importance of laws and the curriculum of the civil state, thus reinforcing poverty in communities as a result to economic practices known to solve tribal disputes which costs large amounts of money, in addition to using women as materials to solve tribal disputes as well which is humiliating and targets their dignity as they are sold which is against international norms that protect women from any sort of extortion or violence or marginalization.

- the spread of disputes between tribes and the usage of weapons to solve them.
- the spread of weapon trading between citizens in rural areas.
- obvious lack of health, municipal and educational services.
- decreasing space for agricultural lands, lack of water and accelerating desertification.
- HHRO noticed the behavior of politicians who intend to pass Tribal Law.
- the spread of the phenomena "required tribally" sings on properties and stores inside cities.
- the issue of trading women between tribes to solve disputes continues.

In 2016, we saw a number of disputes and conflicts between tribes in different areas in Iraq, the rate of these disputes increasing resulting in armed conflict, and the incidents that took place in the tribal area surrounding Basra outskirts, and the tribal area surrounding Misan province which resulted in clashes and deaths among citizens and attackers, in general, HHRO noticed that government agencies couldn't stop the conflict unless throw intermediaries that are either clerics or notables, and which also requires paying financial ransoms, while legal and judicial processes

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remained absent as a legal method to stop such conflicts, which means that tribal norms remains above civil laws which should be prominent. In this context, HHRO activists recorded the following field indicators:

First: the proliferation of weapons among tribal groups which clearly proves the existence of weapon trading, even sharing weapons between tribes as a sign of solidarity on the basis that this or that tribe is part of a certain tribe.

Second: the financial status in rural areas continue to suffer from clear deterioration with regards to agricultural land or raising poultry or livestock production, while under-developed means of agriculture continue to be used and the agricultural land is increasing as a result of desertification that reached a rate of 5 square km per year.

Third: tribal areas suffer from serious lack of health, educational or municipal services, for example: health centers opened in these areas lack doctors, nurses and staff, and often different diseases spread and continues to do so, the majority of victims are women and children, with regards to educational services it's enough to say that schools are built of clay lacking the most basic services, that is an ongoing case with obvious lack of teachers, moreover, girls don't have the opportunity to continue their study, less than 40 % of girls finish primary education, and illiteracy exceeded 45% in the most remote tribal communities, most schools need books during the general educational crisis in 2016-2017.

In regard to municipal services, water sources for few tribes are surface water or wells, and the water is used without filtering.

Fourth: tribal threats continue to rule relations inside cities as well, you often see signs on properties or shops saying "required tribally" which means it's banned to use the property, this is a clear punch to judicial laws and resolutions, and generally to all laws and regulations.

Fifth: HHRO received information that the general conditions of women are primitive, used as a subject or a ransom to end disputes, while many girls are forced to marry their relatives and when a girl refused to do so she is under what is known as (lust) and is not allowed to choose her (partner in life), these practices aren't so different from the practices of ISIS which must be eliminated and removed from the history of Iraq.

Conditions of Liberated areas in the Nineveh Plain:

Liberated Nineveh plain territory (Baghdida, Telskuf, Batnay, Karemlles) suffer from a bitter reality, for further details:

1. rate of residential buildings destruction as a result to military operations and destruction caused by ISIS in the Nineveh plain generally raises to 50%, in few Christian towns, as mentioned earlier, homes and buildings are burned or partially destroyed, the percentage raised to 80% in Batnay in Telkief district and in Bartella in Hamdaniya district. Destruction in Shabaki or Kaka'I villages exist as well, which mainly consists of homes of clay, while electrical grids were also subject to vandalism.
2. all churches and monasteries were vandalized and burned by ISIS terrorists, all crosses were destroyed, all statues of Jesus or the virgin Mary or other saints were destroyed, in addition to the

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destruction of many monasteries (Al-Jib monastery) in the monastery of the martyrs Behnam and Sarra located in Nimrud sub-district.



the immaculate church in Hamdaniya district which was fully burned by ISIS terrorists



Destruction of crosses on top of churches by ISIS terrorists

3. burning thousands of books, documents, manuscripts and historical religious records that goes back to the first AD centuries.

4. vandalism in cemeteries that belongs to Christians in Karemla, Bartella and Qaraqosh, many graves were dug up and skeletons were exposed, many skeletons were vandalized in barbaric ways.

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Digging up graves and cemeteries' vandalism

5. vandalizing all Ezidi temples in Sinjar and Bashiqa, blowing up many of them.

6. vandalizing and blowing up all religious temples of Kaka'is in the villages of (Wardak, Tel Allaban, Kazkan, Almajidiya), which is in Hamdaniya district.



Baba Haydar monastery that belongs to the Kaka'l religion in Wardak village – Nineveh plain | destroyed by ISIS terrorists

The Security Status: Christian families fear returning to their towns and cities in the Nineveh plain (Qaraqosh, Bartella, Karemles) for the following reasons and challenges:

1. Because the city of Mosul isn't fully liberated yet, with different security forces being located in these towns, such as (police, national police, different mobilization units).
2. Due to governmental attempts to encourage the return of the Arab and Sunni Shabak families to the villages neighboring Christians lands, and many have returned, but Christians, Ezidies and Shia Shabak fear that these returning families might still be loyal to ISIS, because they stayed in their villages during the invasion of ISIS and left at the launch of the liberation operations in Nineveh,

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especially that the people of Nineveh claim that many of those who returned participated in looting and burning these towns.

3. Lack of clear and strategic vision by the government to compensate victims and enforce accountability upon the criminals of the Islamic State and those who cooperated with them from the neighboring villages to vandalize houses, Churches and cemeteries.

4. HHRO noticed that the people of the Nineveh plain doubt that they will be offered compensation or justice and proper accountability for those who committed crimes against the residence of Christian cities and villages.

5. Keeping the former administrative structure of these towns, which was a direct cause for much demographic change in these Christian towns, where the Christian majority in these towns became a minority in representation in the local governments and the municipal councils, which is a challenge that continues, raising the fear of Christians that if this status continues to be that will threaten peaceful coexistence, because improper representation in these councils, according to the opinion of local Christians, caused the dominance of the Muslim minority of Arabs, Shabak and Turkmen in the decision making process in these councils, which contributed, in one way or another, in causing demographic change in these Christian towns through decision to build mosques and Shia schools inside these towns, this succeeded in the Syriac Christian town of Bartella, and similar attempts were made in Karemla and Qaraqosh; center of Hamdaniya district, Christians fear that many of these administrations became part of armed groups with different slogans, adding to the fear of the locals who want to return but there aren't special administrative guarantees to protect their existence.

6. Fear of inner conflict between the different components of the Nineveh plain after the elimination of ISIS and the liberation of Mosul, because the armed groups of these components each follow a certain political party, and there are groups of one component that follow different political agenda, which causes disputes and conflicts between the residents of one area.

7. the political dispute between Baghdad and Erbil continues, what is known as disputed territory, which is also a reason for reluctance to return, locals expect the comeback of the conflict between Baghdad and Erbil again.

- **Status of Services:** remains at its lowest levels, destroyed infrastructure, no electricity or water, health services are nonexistent, and the ones existent is aimed to support the military effort in Mosul and the displaced Arab families from Mosul and the surrounding villages around Hamdaniya district, while municipal services aren't able to offer much due to lack of funding and machinery and because the residents of Christian towns and villages didn't return, and when few services directorates restored its operational status, such as the electricity directorates, electrical transformers were robbed.

- **Community Status:**

1- During numerous visits by officials from the Iraqi government to the areas of the Nineveh plain, there were confirmations that the residents of these areas will return, housing buildings, services and means of decent living will be restored and rehabilitated. But those who were forced out cannot be returned by force, and the indicators in the field say that these areas lack what Christian

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families are looking for in light of total loss of trust in the authorities, in addition to the destruction of their homes and the landmarks of their cities.

2. Staff of services directorates located in these areas are subject to daily pressure to be in their directorates in these areas, especially the Nineveh Directorate of Health, issued orders by the Ministry of Health and the Nineveh General Directorate of Health say that doctors, pharmacists and other staff members must abide by their times which indicates that there are strict laws threatening that their salaries would be cut in case they don't abide by these orders, but most members of staff are from displaced families living in camps and rented houses in Erbil, they cannot reside in these liberated areas and the distant between Erbil and these directorates is about 160 km to go to and return from, in addition to barriers such as military checkpoints belonging to the KRG and the Iraqi forces, which means that this issue requires further study and looking into to offer realistic solutions, especially when addressing the reorganization and establishment of guaranteed and permanent security, in addition to rehabilitation and reconstruction what was destroyed by ISIS terrorist. Because victims of ISIS have shaky trust in security forces and directorates in damaged areas, especially in Christian and Ezidie areas, because residents of these area are clearly demanding for direct international support for Iraqi security agencies, for Iraqi forces to be accompanied by international experts that will help train, arm and secure safety for everyone regardless of their affiliations. Christians and Ezidies don't accept returning to the same chaotic administration as before when they were marginalized and not defended by security forces responsible to do so.

3. IDPs who returned are a number of Kaka'I families, a number of these families returned to the villages of (Tel Laban, Wardak, Almajidiya and Kazkan), but these villages lack basic services such as electricity, schools and water.

What is required for the return of minorities, inducing Christians, to their territories:

- Finding a clear post liberation strategy for the Iraqi government, mechanisms for IDPs to return and compensating victims and rehabilitating their towns and cities.
- The participation of minorities in determining the fate of their territories during negotiations, discussion and meetings conducted for this purpose, stopping the current method of decided their future by other forces higher in societal order.
- Not returning to the former state of administration in these areas. This doesn't encourage the residents to return because they lost trust in the former authorities because the authorities that were supposed to protect them, either military or administrative, let them down and shown lack of ability to protect them.

Therefore, there has to be qualified security guarantor with international guarantees of protection through a special international decision, the participation of locals in the protection of their Christians, Ezidi, Turkmen or Shabak areas with the security institution that can impose the rule of law, working to achieve justice and compensating victims. Any other method would mean that only a small percentage will return, thus rates of emigration will increase among minorities, especially Christians and Ezidies. Currently the rate is not less than 30 families per week leaving Iraq.

- In light of the economic crisis in Iraq, the Iraqi state has to manage resources in order to compensate the victims of ISIS, through asking the international community to establish a

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fund box to compensate civilians and for reconstruction, or a special fund for reconstruction of minorities' territories.

Educational conditions of IDPs:

HHRO was keen to monitor the educational conditions of displaced students, especially those belonging to minorities, upon the disaster that happened to them upon the invasion of the terrorist groups of the Islamic State of the city of Mosul in 10/6/2014, invading the areas of Sinjar, Telafar and the territories of the Nineveh plain. The impact on minorities that this invasion left wasn't only their displacement, loss of their properties, being subject to murder and abduction, their daughters and women being subject to captivity and sexual assault and other types of violence and hatred, but also the disaster in the educational field, hundreds of students lost their education, thousands of students dropped out of schools and began working to save themselves and their families from poverty, thus HHRO conducted a survey and numerous visits to camps and meetings with educational officials in the provinces of Duhok and Erbil which became home to displacement camps of the Nineveh plain and other minorities, HHRO Observed the following:

- Acute lack of buildings allocated to schools which causes overcrowded classes, where each class could include more than 70 student, while these classes shouldn't include more than 35 student based on space.
- There are schools in camps and in areas near those camps, schools time in these schools begin at 5 PM, we can imaging the conditions of these students of primary school going to school during this period of time.
- Lack of staff in schools in camps and areas located outside governorate centers, which is due to lack in specialized teachers for high schools and especially for 12th graders studying science, Arabic, Chemistry, Physics, Social studies and economics, this lack of teachers expands to reach middle and primary schools, while this is worst due to lack of books, in Hamdaniya educational directorate only 50% of necessary books of all specialties exist.
- There's urgent need for the restoration and maintenance of operational schools by the Hamdaniya educational directorate and the Nineveh education directorate representation in Erbil and Ankawa sub-district, such as (Alsalam primary) Schools and (Ankawa High School) and Almaali One and Two school in Erbil – Kaznazan, the urgent need for the maintenance of health facilities in schools.
- Acute lack of school furniture which includes desks and chairs for a number of operational schools such as Alrafidain one and two schools and Mart Shmonischool.
- Schools that is included in teaching Christian education lack the curriculum for this subject.
- The general schools situation requires a number of prepared caravans to alleviate overcrowded schools such as the schools in Kinjan city in Erbil.
- Displaced students suffer from difficulty of transportation between their camps and schools located outside the camps, putting into consideration the long distance that demands for means of transportation, such camps are the camp of Kinjan because their schools are located in Harsham 1 and Harsham 2.
- There's also an improper distribution and allocation of teachers, while certain schools are overcrowded with staff and teachers and other schools lack teachers, but there are barriers

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to achieve this such as travel distance for teachers and lacking enough money allocation to cover their expenses and encourage them to travel to schools that lack teachers.

Recommendations and Proposals:

HHRO calls for attention and consideration for these recommendations and proposals as instant and required solutions for the challenges facing displaced students:

- 1- the curriculum should be districted in electronic disks and distributed among students to compensate for the lack of hard copies, and in order to cover the increasing demand and the resulted crisis, or provided properly priced books to cover the need inside Iraq and for Iraqi schools abroad.
- 2- accelerating the process of equipping caravan schools so that it could be near camps of IDPs to alleviate over crowdedness in schools and near liberated towns such as Qayara, Rabia, Sinjar, Telskuf and other villages.
3. holding development courses for administrative, education-related and engineering staff and cadres.
4. providing book in Syriac for 1st, 2nd, 3rd graders in schools required to teach this language.
5. establishing a shared emergency room by the ministry of emigration and displacement, in order to address issues and difficulties that could come up during the study year of 2016-2017.
6. covering the lack of teachers by contracting with professors and offering this opportunity to retired teachers, who have the ability to teach and especially graduates of universities and institution who didn't have the opportunity to be employed.
7. providing heating materials for winter and preparing for summer and especially for when heat peaks in April, schools need fans and air conditioners.

Conditions of schools and educational institutions post liberation in the Nineveh plain:

HHRO monitored, during its field campaigns in the liberated territories in Nineveh particularly after the launch of the Nineveh liberation operation (We are coming Nineveh Operation) in October, the amount of destruction and vandalism that was caused to educational institutions in Hamdaniya district, which also includes the sub-districts of Bartella, Nimrud, Alkwer, and the district of Telkief which includes the sub-districts of Telkief, Alqosh, Wana, Faida and other villages such as Alqibba, Alrashidiya and Shirikhan. HHRO teams managed to visit a number of schools and buildings allocated for education in a number of the areas mentioned above, the teams concluded that schools were subject to severe damage resulted by bombing or partial or complete destruction or burning, in addition to looting the furniture and what was inside by ISIS gangs, stealing printers, seats, computers, cooling and heating devices and other office-related necessities and furniture. HHRO also noticed that a number of schools were occupied by military forces, security units and mobilization units, using schools as barracks, as a sample for our research we looked into the center of Hamdaniya district, we discovered that the estimated percentage of damage reaches

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27%, also looking into schools and kindergartens destroyed completely or partially, or burned completely or partially, while also being looted and vandalized.

The number of schools amounts to 65 school out of a total of 240 school, as observed by HHRO's activists, the conditions of destroyed schools in Telkief district, the percentages of totally destroyed or burned educational institutions reaches more than (55-60%) especially that Telkief district remains not fully liberated.

Thus, reconstruction of these educational buildings will require estimate observations and checks by specialists, it also calls for extraordinary efforts to allocate funds and capabilities for reconstruction.

The Nineveh education directorate conducted a statistical survey about the conditions of educational institutions in Hamdaniya district upon liberation by Iraqi forces and the following tables includes data about the damages:

N	Number of Schools	Type of damage	Notes
1	5	Complete or partial destruction	Requires rebuilding and resupplying with furniture and equipment
2	4	Complete or partial burning	Requires rehabilitation (painting, ceilings, electrical equipment, windows, digging a well for water, electricity generator, office furniture)
3	50	Looted furniture with light damage	Requires rehabilitation (painting, ceilings, electrical equipment, windows, digging a well for water, electricity generator, office furniture)
	59 Schools		

These schools were divided according to administrative units of Hamdaniya district accordingly:

N	Administrational Units	Number of Damaged Schools
1	Hamdaniya center	33
2	Bartella	14
3	Nimrud	8
4	Kwer	4
	Total	59 School

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One of the schools that was fully destroyed by the terrorist groups of ISIS in the Hamdaniya district

Conditions of Iraqis in neighboring countries and the educational conditions:

During field visits conducted by a number of delegations sent by Hammurabi Human Rights Organization to check on the conditions of Iraqi asylum seekers waiting for emigration in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon, HHRO noticed the difficult humanitarian conditions they had to endure, especially thousands who fled the Genocide carried out by ISIS against Christians, Ezidies and other Iraqi minorities who continue to be in need and poverty and unsuccessful in sending all their children to schools and universities. Thus, an initiative of good was shown by the churches and the interested organization that established special schools for this situation in all of:

Jordan:

The number of Iraqi refugees in Jordan is estimated, according to the Jordanian government statistics, to be about 131 thousand Iraqi, Christians represent about 8 thousand Iraqis and those applying for UNHCR in Jordan are 32 thousand people, there are thousands of Iraqis in Jordan for more than 10 years, those left due to political conditions, and out of fear of staying in Iraq which can place them in danger, the other part emigrate after the invasion of ISIS of their territories and the deterioration of the security, political and social conditions, these emigrants include Christians. Iraqi refugees found a safe refuge in Jordan despite lack of resources in Jordan thus Iraqis began to represent a burden on the Jordanian government. Despite all of this, the Iraqi government didn't adopt a positive role to help its citizens or provide any support. They were left to face difficult conditions suffering from the Iraqi government cutting their employment salaries and being not included in the 1 million Iraqi dinar grant given to their fellow Iraqis living in Iraq, they also couldn't use the Smart Card system.

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The majority of Iraqis, including Christians, live in crowded gatherings in the suburbs of Amman in difficult conditions, depending on their savings and on whatever aid they receive from humanitarian organizations of Christian churches, which is also scarce when compared to the number of refugees in Jordan. Most of them rented apartments and have to pay between 300 and 600 dollars for rent which is a lot of money when compared to their difficult financial conditions, and the majority of rented apartments lack proper health standards and suffer from dampness, old furniture, but many refugees rent unfurnished apartments where only the basics exist and their covers, mattresses and necessities are provided by donations or churches.

Iraqis aren't allowed to work without official permits, which adds to their difficult conditions. Few of them work in secrecy without having permits in order to cover their daily needs which makes them subject to exploitation by employers, this was resulted by having to stay as refugees without jobs for a long period of time, and they didn't have enough savings to consume during this long time. The issue is also that they couldn't return to their homes and jobs, having weak hope for their asylum-seeking applications to emigrate to foreign countries, especially that the High Commissioner for Refugees stopped helping in this regards for the majority of Iraqi refugees in Jordan, especially Christians.

Most Iraqi refugees in Jordan, after September 2012, live with no rights or official recognition as refugees by the High Commissioner, which means they receive no financial or medical aid. They used to enjoy these rights before this date, and they were subject to the process of identifying their conditions as refugees, which is conducted by the High Commissioner of the United Nations through personal interviews with them, those who pass these interviews is granted a refugee status, interviews conducted passed on a number of instructions so they can receive aid. Thus, we notice that many social issues exacerbated because the deterioration of economic conditions and difficulty of living for Iraqi families and especially women whom are subject to insult and humiliation in harsh humanitarian conditions and the loss of their children's educational and social future. This situation resulted in protests and serious demands for the High Commissioner to find proper solutions and to process submitted emigration applications because these people cannot return, cannot emigrate, cannot work and have no salaries.

As was mentioned before, humanitarian associations are scarce, when compared to the large number of refugees in Jordan, there is food aid provided by Caritas organization, the Papal Mission, and Church related associations but this aid is limited to times of holidays.

With regards to education, it's not that bad, there's support offered by Caritas that includes all Christians students in primary and secondary schools. The Iraqi education department in Jordan did offer the chance for students to participate in exams so they could graduate schools while being in Jordan.

Regarding Health conditions, there are charitable health centers such as the Medical Aid Society, Caritas Health center and St. Loqa health center for Christians and the for the treatment of refugees from normal diseases, conducting emergency surgeries and providing medicines for those with chronic diseases, these centers work when there is enough funding and according to specific appointments with patients scheduled ahead of time. Thus, patients who need urgent assistance need to go to private doctors and pay the very expensive drugs.

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Lebanon:

Supervised by the Syriac Catholic church with support from the papal mission in Lebanon, the school of “Peace Angels” was established for Iraqi refugees in Lebanon-Beirut. For 2 years, this schools has continued to offer hope and optimism for students and their parents by offer education to hundreds of primary and middle school students in the area of Alnabaa-Beirut where there are more than 487 student from different sects studying and waiting for the end of their bitter refuge, the church also supervises a kindergarten that offers services to more than 100 Iraqi refugee child ... the school’s administration asks for the attention of the Iraqi government in providing books, stationary and official recognition of their certificate as they teach using the Iraqi curriculum and that the majority of its students were displaced from Iraqi governmental schools. Those directing this very important national project complain of lack of attention and interest from the Iraqi authorities despite contacting the Iraqi embassy in this regards. Father YoussifSaqat contacted the manager of this schools. The ministry of education in Baghdad, through Hammurabi Human Rights Organization, to put into consideration the importance of his initiative asking for assistance for their schools and the ratification of their certificates in order to encourage their students to move forward towards building a brighter future for themselves and release them from the limitations of mystery that governs their future.

Therefore, HHRO repeated its encouragement of the Ministry of Education to take proper measures to respond to the demands of the school in Beirut, which is part of the project of alleviating the injustice caused by the security issues in the Nineveh plain and Mosul and resulted in these innocents being in the hell-like conditions of being victims of Genocide the resulted in the destruction of their villages, the robbery of their properties and the captivity of their women and children, removing them from their ancestral lands. Harsh living condition and raising prices adds to their suffering because they have very limited and decreasing if not nonexistent resources and lack work opportunities. The number of Iraqis in Lebanon reaches approximately 20 thousand Iraqi refugee, 14 thousand of them are Christians ...

Turkey:

In Turkey, there are more than 15 thousand Ezidi refugee in addition to large numbers of Christian and other Iraqi refugees which we couldn’t gather the accurate numbers of, they live in very difficult economic conditions and aren’t permitted to work to earn a living, they depend completely on the aid they receive from relatives abroad ..also, they children stay uneducated spread outside large cities where the High Commissioner for Refugees of the United Nations focuses its attention to protect them legally and resettle them in the diaspora.

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Syrian Refugees in Iraq:

HHRO contributed in assisting Syrian refugees residing in Duhok and the Amedi territory. Offering financial and material aid according to the capabilities of the organization, HHRO also monitored the conditions of Syrian families in Lebanon, especially Christians who fled the oppression of ISIS, which invaded their villages and towns in the Khabur area in Hasakah province, Christians who lived in that area are from Iraqi origins and became Syrians after they fled the massacres in 1933 where Assyrians were massacred in Sumel area located North-Western Duhok. According to statistics the number of Syrian refugees in Iraq until the end of 2016 are:

Duhok Province

Syrian Refugees	Syrian Refugees
<u>In camps</u>	<u>Outside Camps</u>
- Dumez camp 1 (31032)	
- Kwelan camp (7910)	
- Akra camp (1163)	(33130) Refugee

Sulaimaniyah Province

Syrian Refugees	Syrian Refugees
<u>In camps</u>	<u>Outside Camps</u>
- Arbad camp (7511)	(22449) refugee

Erbil Province

Syrian Refugees	Syrian Refugees
<u>In camps</u>	<u>Outside Camps</u>
- Dar Ashkran camp (12190)	
- Baserma camp (3445)	
- Qoshtaba camp (7073)	(79512) refugee

Anbar Province

Syrian Refugees	Syrian Refugees
<u>In camps</u>	<u>Outside Camps</u>
- Alubaidi camp (1512)	(2955) refugee

Total Refugees in Camps

(71836) refugee

Total Refugees Outside Camps

(138046) refugee

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And the total number of Syrian refugees in Iraq is **(209882)** refugee

P.S.: the above statistics about the number of Syrian Refugees in Iraq are from the website of the UNHCR.

Iraqi Women conditions:

In addition to suffering from domestic violence and marginalization in a male-dominated society that doesn't miss issuing laws that negatively target women and completely marginalizes them. Whether during genocides carried out by what is called the Islamic State in Iraq (ISIS), Iraqi women were victims of murder, captivity and rape since 2015 and this continues nowadays. HHRO observed that in addition to dozens of war crimes and crimes against humanity, women and children were victims of genocides committed against Iraqis by ISIS, especially against minorities such as Christians, Ezidies, Shabak and Turkmen. More than one security agency confirmed from video recordings for Turkmen victims that they were targeted during forbidden chemical attacks used against the Iraqi Turkmen component in Taza and other areas where they live, women and children were the majority of victims.



Images of Turkmen victims, From Malalt Relief Society Turkmani Organization



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Turkman Shia child died from poisonous gases used by ISIS

HHRO given much attention to the conditions of the Iraqi women, in light of the deterioration in their conditions being disrespected and using violence against them. HHRO focused on women victims of ISIS, especially girls and women that fled the hell of the Islamic State, HHRO recorded dozens of cases of flagrant violations due to acts of Genocide that added to the suffering of women being captivated and traded in in markets, and being subject to torture and sexual assault and other criminal acts. A never-ending suffering, unfortunately, as long as there's raising rates of domestic violence among Iraqi families under laws set by authoritarian males that makes women in difficult conditions and forced to accept the status-quo and the violence, but also encouraging that against themselves which means that it's also encouraged against men and children.

Therefore, a group of civil society organization including HHRO, submitted a recommendation that includes a law draft to the committee of woman, child and family in the parliament to cooperate in issue a law that confronts domestic violence. But unfortunately, campaign for this law has been ongoing for 4 years but nothing happened until this day due to the politicization of the issue of protecting women victims of violence

Because if we compared what happened 14 years ago and the conditions in 2016, we notice a deterioration that has to be addressed, in promoting the condescending view of women and the marginalization targeting women in different political, administrative and economic levels, exploiting the constitutional rights of women by political parties to strengthen their percentage of the quota in all public fields and especially with regards to the laws of political parties and the leading positions in the state

The biggest evidence of this deterioration is what was issued by the central agency for general statistics in 2016 about the number of widows and divorced women excluding the province of Nineveh, Anbar and a number of districts in Kirkuk and Salah Ad Din, which reached (1,938,000)

Including (122,438) divorced woman and (105,000) divorced woman aged between 14 – 49 years, while the number of divorced women older than 50 is above (17,432), these numbers are considered to be disturbing.

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The General Directorate to Combat Violence Against Women in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, revealing what was witnessed in 2016 of violations against women, pointing to the murder of 43 women, 74 suicide attempts, 220 cases of self-burning, 93 attempts of burning with 115 sexual assault cases against women and girls in different locations in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The Directorate also revealed that the KRG's courts received 6408 cases of complaint about sexual assault against women. This is an example of what's happening in the field in the displaced camps where women are easy targets:

- The general social conditions in displacement camps continue to be as bad, lack of services is a status-quo, regardless of social diffracted behavior represented by the spread of prostitution, in light of this terrible social situation, Ms. (A, R) called upon HHRO and other organization to assist her with her difficult living conditions after being divorced by her husband after accusing him of betraying her with other women inside and outside the camp, Ms. (A, R) says that she is responsible now for the lives of 3 young daughters, one of them is only 18 months old, confirmed that she was beaten numerous times by her husband before being divorced and that they signs of his assault are clear on her body.

As published by Alsumaria News/Baghdad the statistics of divorces compared to 2004 and 2016:

- The Iraqi judicial authority announced on Monday 29/11/2016 the complete statistics of divorces since 2004, pointing out that the majority of divorced happened in 2011. Iraqi recorded since 2004 until the end of October of the current year 681,011 cases of divorce.
- The highest annual increase took place between 2008 and 2009, with more than 8,500 cases, the lowest number was between 2014 and the past year at 23 divorce only.
- In 2011, the country recorded the highest number of cases with more than 59,500 case, this rate decreased during the 3 years following that year, before raising by 23 cases during the past year, with expectation of an increment in divorced late 2016.
- Courts in Iraq recorded more than 5200 divorce last month.
- The rates of increase and decrease in divorces happened accordingly:
- 28,690 case in 2014
- 33,348 case during 2005, an increase by 4,658 case
- 35,897 case during 2006, an increase by 2,549 case
- 41,536 case during 2007, an increase by 5,639 case
- 44,116 case during 2008, an increase by 2,580 case
- 52,648 case during 2009, an increase by 8,533 case
- 53,840 case during 2010, an increase by 1,191 case
- 59, 515 case during 2011, an increase by 5,675 case
- 59,200 case during 2012, a decrease by 3,15 case
- 55,551 case during 2013, a decrease by 3,649 case
- 52,442 case during 2014, a decrease by 3,109 case
- 52, 465 case during 2015, an increase by 23 case
- Since the beginning of the current year until October: 48, 762 case
- Baghdad as a model:

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- Looking at the figures from the current year we realize that Baghdad includes 44% of divorces. And in order to find legal and sustainable solutions

Iraqi women demand from the Iraqi authorities to find resolutions and take decisions that serve the case of women and their active participation in the peace and security building process in Iraq where women continue to work in non-governmental organization and as personnel in addition to working with few official institutions such as the parliamentary Committee for Women, family and childhood, to present a draft for a law the targets domestic violence to be voted on by the parliament, but until this day, efforts towards this goal are unsuccessful because political parties continues to place barriers in front of this law in order to stop it, therefore, the current parliamentary period will end without the enacting of a law in favor of women ... new efforts were launched by the Women Committee of the General Secretariat for the Council of Ministers to enact the special Iraqi national plan activating the United Nation's law 1325 with regards to women contribution in building peace and security and offer more opportunities for women to take decision making positions.

HHRO ask different authorities to respond to the voices of women and abide by the commitments of this country in front of the international community ... thus showing signs of good and aiming to move forward without marginalization, backwardness and poverty in all different fields of work.

With regards to survivors, it is a very important issue, especially women and girls who became mothers, carrying their children after the liberation of the sexual violence of the rapists who traded in women, there has to be legislations to address their conditions and the conditions of their new born babies, as they are single women, left without a shelter or a legal status that compensates for the injustice they suffered from with their innocent children.

HHRO asks for the legislation of a new law that would solve the issues of this oppressed part of the society, suffering from shame of being raped and forced to change their religion and other types of violence and insult carried out against them, in order to make them part of the society again and guarantee their rights and dignity as much as possible.

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Conclusions:

A careful reading of what Hammurabi Human Rights Organization accomplished, including monitoring, follow-up, documentation and investigation of cases of Human Rights in Iraqi during 2016, brings us to credible conclusions in light of the available information and facts included in this report, which represent a comprehensive diagnosis of the rights of Iraqis across the country, it was necessary to be offer detailed references thus, it is importing to mention the following indicators:

First Indicator: Human Rights in 2016 remained open to violations in most parts of Iraq, but the most significant tragedy was witnessed among Iraqi minorities such as (Ezidies, Christians, Shabak, Kaka'is, Turkmen and SabeanMandaeans) and to a certain extend also targeting the dark-skinned and the Baha'is.

Second Indicator: the social strata of women and children was the most vulnerable to abuse, especially those belonging to minorities. In this context, the influx of displaced people depended on the movement of the military operations and the crimes committed by the terrorists "ISIS" which has led to a higher rate of harm to women and children.

Third Indicator: the deterioration of the daily living conditions in refugee and displacement camps, especially those residing in camps in Duhok, Erbil, Sulaymaniyah and parts of Baghdad outskirts, the most difficult exacerbation of the difficulty of the living conditions happened during the influx of thousands of IDPs from Salah Addin and Anbar, and most recently from Mosul and the villages and towns that used to be occupied by the terrorists but has been reconquered by the Iraqi armed forces, the Peshmerga and other supporting forces.

Fourth Indicator: The grave danger to the people who remained in Mosul amid the exchange of fire between the Iraqi forces and the Iraqi forces, and the exchange bombardments between the two sides which led to the death of dozens of unarmed civilians.

Fifth Indicator: The relief activities that should have helped the displaced remained as weak as they were before, especially since many aid organization stopped their efforts to support these citizens. We have noticed, during our field visits, the deteriorating humanitarian conditions and the increment in need in the displacement camps.

Sixth Indicator: In 2016, no laws or legislations were enacted to amend Human Rights. On the contrary, legislations were enacted to enshrine religious violations. In this context, we mention the national card in article 26/Second, which mentions the Islamization of minor children if one of the parents converts to Islam, The violations also included the passing of a law prohibiting alcohol in a text that violates the civil rights of Iraqis of different ethnic, religious or regional affiliations.

Seventh Indicator: The continuation of the policy of exclusion, marginalization and isolation targeting Iraqi minorities, whether for educational and jobsopportunities, or in the framework of opportunities to contribute to sovereignty-related decisions, although this is a natural right of these components of Iraq.

Eighth Indicator: The continuation of kidnappings and killings of Iraqis, and the figures pointed out by the United Nations Mission in Iraq "UNAMI" about the number of dead, abducted and missing in

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Iraq during the year of 2016, indicates that these are serious violations which are still being carried out in Iraq without being put an end to by the government.

Ninth Indicator: The continued political problems between the large components, as well as between the two governments: the federal government and the regional government, has reflected those problems negatively on the human rights situation, especially as it relates to many deferred administrative benefits, especially the subject of vacant ministries and the disputed areas.

Tenth Indicator: weakness of UN role in supporting Iraq, especially in the possibility of intervention and influence in order to put an end to violations.

Eleventh Indicator: In 2016, we did not witness any deterrent or decisive measures against the manifestations of corruption and the spread of bribery, sectarianism or tribalism, which are clearly shown in obvious rates influencing the general conditions.

Recommendations:

1. Hammurabi Human Rights Organization calls on the government authorities in Baghdad, Governorates and in the regional government, to conduct reviews with regards to their responsibilities to put an end to violations of Human Rights and to give priority to the role of law.
2. Hammurabi Human Rights Organization calls on the security and military authorities in the Nineveh governorate to ensure the safety of civilians, to open safe corridors for their evacuation from the battlefields and to increase support for their humanitarian conditions in displacement camps and to ensure that the war on terror is not at the expense of human rights.
3. The importance of security and administrative self-determination for minorities' territories, still considered being disputed territory, to resolve this issue as soon as possible to ensure the stability of these areas and encourage the population and especially those displaced to return to their lands.
4. Prioritizing listening and the follow-up of human rights reports issued by civil society organizations. We at the HHRO are ready to adopt any participatory steps along this path.
5. Setting time limits for the completion of Human Rights cases in courts and to resolve all abuses of properties belonging to minorities and especially Christians that remain in the hands of those who forcefully took it and haven't been subject to legal accountability yet or to deterrent measures to overcome their violations. As well as addressing the encroachments on the lands and villages of Christians in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.
6. HHRO proposes the creation of a ministry that will be known as the Ministry of Emergency, as is the case in many countries in the world, to assume responsibility for relief and support for victims of violations and disasters.
7. To expedite the process of removing the rubble left by ISIS in the liberated cities, towns and villages, as this would lead to the acceleration of the return of the IDPs, with the condition of guaranteeing security, and the exclusion of these areas from any security or political disputes.
8. We propose to the Supreme Judicial Council to issue a media report on the resolution of human rights issues and to make this a public quarterly report issued every three months.

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9. HHRO proposes inviting human rights activists to be observers of any governmental investigative procedures related to human rights. This approach is being implemented in many countries of the world.

10. Monitoring the affairs of Iraqi refugees in neighboring countries, and opening channels of communication between them and the United Nations offices to carry out visits of inspection and to process their files periodically. We point to the importance of the educational aspect in those countries and encourage the establishment of Iraqi public schools and exclude those schools from many of the conditions and requirements placed on schools inside Iraq or that could be implemented in normal conditions.

11. Abolish or at least minimize the current use of the death penalty, as well as working to stop the excessive torture use to extract confessions from detainees.