

The Mandaean Associations Union 19 Ketch Rd. Morristown, NJ 07960 ,USA Tel: +1 973 865 1340 Fax: +1973 292 3906 suhaib.nashi@gmail.com

www.mandaeanunion.org

θ

The Mandaean Associations Union

Mandaean Human Rights Group

Mandaean Human Rights Annual Report

September 2011

Disclaimer: This report is the property of the Mandaean Associations Union (MAU). Any media use of all or part of this report should be referred to the owner by name. Any other use must be approved by the MAU.

Version 7 - 13th August 2011 - MHRG

θ

The Mandaean Human Rights Group (MHRG) is a self organised group dedicated to the help and protection of fellow Mandaeans in Iraq and Iran, given the situation in those two countries. The Human Rights Group watches, investigates and exposes human rights violations against Mandaeans. We have volunteers in the United States, Canada, Australia, United Kingdom, Europe and Iraq. Our model in our work is the United Nation's Human Rights Declaration of 1948. The MHRG is a non profit organisation registered at Companies House, UK 6271157. It is a member of the Mandaean Associations Union.

Acknowledgment

We gratefully acknowledge the dedicated help and advice of many organisations, without which this work would not have been completed. Numbered among them for this edition are:

- 1. The Mandaean Associations Union
- 2. The Spiritual Mandaean Council Baghdad, Iraq
- 3. The Mandaean General Assembly Baghdad, Iraq
- 4. The Mandaean Human Rights Association- Baghdad, Iraq
- 5. The Mandaean Society in Jordan.
- 6. The Mandaean Society in Syria.
- 7. The Mandaean Society in Australia
- 8. The Scientific Mandaean Society in Iran

3

Contents

Demography	1
Short History of the Sabian Mandaeans	
Sabian Mandaeans after the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime	
Threat of Extinction	
The Mandaean refugees in the middle Countries, Syria and Jordan	
What is the solution?	
For the Mandaeans inside Iraq:	
For the Mandaean refugees:	
Conclusion	
Appendix	
TCTCTCTCCS	
Appendix	
	30
Atrocities against the Sabian Mandaean religion followers since 2003	
Atrocities against the Sabian Mandaean religion followers since 2003	30
Atrocities against the Sabian Mandaean religion followers since 2003	30
Atrocities against the Sabian Mandaean religion followers since 2003	
Atrocities against the Sabian Mandaean religion followers since 2003	
Atrocities against the Sabian Mandaean religion followers since 2003	
Atrocities against the Sabian Mandaean religion followers since 2003	
Atrocities against the Sabian Mandaean religion followers since 2003	
Atrocities against the Sabian Mandaean religion followers since 2003	30 35 40 47 47 48 48 48

The Sabian-Mandaean religion is one of the oldest monotheistic religions in the Middle East. It is independent of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. It follows the teachings of John the Baptist; baptism being its central ritual. Like most religions it emphasises marriage, family, and peaceful coexistence with other groups. Mandaeans (Sabians or Sub'ba, in spoken Arabic) are the people who believe in this religion. One is born a Mandaean; the group accepts no converts. Well before the Islamic era and from early Christianity, Mandaeans have lived in Southern Iraq and Southern Iran. In Iraq, after WWI, they migrated to large cities such as Basra and Baghdad. Like Hebrews and Copts, Mandaeans are both a religious and ethnic minor they are part of an endogenous Aramaic people. The word Mandaean refers to their distinct Aramaic language, which is still spoken by Iranian Mandaeans. In Iraq on the other hand, the Mandaean language survives only in liturgy.

Demography

Although it is difficult to estimate, the Mandaeans are around sixty thousand at the present time. More than 5,000 Sabaean-Mandaeans remain in Iraq. Their decreased number is due to continued persecution and forced mass conversions, as well as relocation and assimilation. Currently, they live in large cities such as Baghdad, Umara and Basra with a few remaining in other Iraqi cities such as Nasiriya and southern Iranian cities like Ahwaz. During the past decade, and especially the past six years, thousands have fled Iraq and Iran, choosing self-exile and immigration over death and persecution. More than 85% of the Iraqi Mandaean community has been displaced outside Iraq. The Mandaean community in Iraq has dwindled from more than 50,000 in the early 1990s to more than 5000 today but still the exact number is not known. Most have escaped to Syria and Jordan, and others have also fled to other countries. There are between 4000 and 5000 Mandaeans in the United States, 800-1000 in Canada, 5,500 in Sweden, 3,500 in the Netherlands, 2200 in Germany, 600 in Denmark, 400 in Norway and Finland, in Austria, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Italy and France there are 500 Mandaeans, 400 in England, 4500-5000 in Syria, 300 in Jordan, more than 5000 in Iraq, 5000-8000 in Iran, 6000-6500 in Australia, 1 in Libya, 1 in Yemen, and 20 in Dubai. Some are very desperate to reach western democracies and have fallen victim to human trafficking, spent all their savings and endured further difficulties in other countries.

Short History of the Sabian Mandaeans

It is difficult to chart the origins and history of the Mandaean people because their literature does not deal with these topics. Currently only one Mandaean text has emerged which refers, but in a very confused manner, to their history. It is the "Diwan of the great Revelation, called 'Inner Haran'" or Haran Gawaita. In Haran Gawaita there is a description of the Nasoraeans (religious men in Mandaean language) escaping from persecution and staying in the "Median Hills" under the rule of King Ardban.

King Ardban has been identified with the Parthian King Artaban III, IV or V. This description shows how the Mandaean community, or part of it, penetrated into the Iranian territory of that time, that is during the period of the later Parthian kings, in the first or second century A. D. This same text describes how a Mandaean community was established in Mesopotamia (Ancient Iraq), and discusses its further history under the Sassanian rulers.

The emigration of the early Mandaean community from the Jordan valley in Palestine into eastern territories was brought about because of conflicts with the locals. It would probably have taken place during the second century A.D. at the latest, because several Mesopotamian and Parthian elements presuppose a fairly lengthy stay in these regions. The emigrants went first to Haran, and the Median hills, and then entered the southern provinces of Mesopotamia. Haran Gawaita attests to the foundation of a community in Baghdad, i.e. in Mesopotamia, and the appointment of Mandaean governors in this region. In contrast to the Parthian rulers, under whom the Mandaeans obviously prospered, relations with the Sassanians were bad. The same scroll refers to a considerable reduction in the number of the Mandaean Mandies (Worship Houses) at that time. It is also clear from the inscription of the Zoroastrian high priest, Kartar, that those practising non-Iranian religions, including Mandaeans, were persecuted during the reign of King Shahpur *I*.

With the rise of Islam there came renewed oppression. In spite of mentioning the Sabians as "People of the Book" in the Qur'an, Mandaeans were hardly ever tolerated. Thus, the afflicted community retired more

and more into the inaccessible marshes of southern Iraq and the river districts of Khuzestan, where Mandaeans are found until now. During this journey in history, Mandaeans were faced with several massacres and genocide attempts. Examples are as follows:

- 1. The 14th century in Umara, Iraq by the hands of The Sultan Muhsin Ben Mahdi and his son Faiadh the ruler of Shushter. Thousands of Mandaeans were killed₁.
- 2. The massacre of 1782 in South Iran and east Iraq when the Muslim rulers wanted the Mandaean books and the Mandaeans refused to give it in fear of destruction. Leaders of the community were tortured and killed and the rest had to escape2
- 3. The massacres of Muhamra 18373.
- 4. The massacre of Suk Al-Shiuk 18394.
- 5. The Massacre of 1870 in Shushter By the hands of Nassir Al-Deen Shah, the ruler of Irans.

In the beginning of the twentieth century, the Mandaeans returned to the large cities (Baghdad and Basra), and found opportunities for education and social improvement. After the First World War and with the rise of Turkish nationalism, Arab nationalism took precedent over religion and the Arab Muslims fought against the Muslim Ottoman Empire. A new phase of persecution appeared where the ethnic identity of minorities in the Arabic Islamic rule had to dissolve in the pan Arab chauvinistic identity. This included the Mandaeans, Christians, Kurds and all other ethnicities. The Mandaeans lost their language (Mandaean Aramaic), distinctive dress and heritage to Arabic culture. This "Arabisation" process, especially in 1950 to the 1960s, adversely affected their religion 6. Mandaeans were forced to deny certain Mandaean mandates. For instance, as Mandaean children attended schools they were required to cut their hair and beards, which is in direct violation to Mandaean rules. Since the sons of priests are barred from the priesthood if they cut their hair or beards, this forced act has restricted the pool of acceptable applicants. In addition, they were drafted by force in the armed forces again against their religious mandate which prohibit carrying guns?.

During the Baath and Saddam era the Mandaeans were under extreme pressure. The dictatorship affected the Iraqi society over the last several decades in a brutal way. This dictatorship held an iron grip over all Iraqis and stained the recent history with terror and blood of the innocent people. The Mandaeans took their share of misery, pain and all kinds of suffering. Several hundred Mandaeans were murdered by the authorities during Saddam rule, for trying to express their thoughts in public. Hundreds of their young men and women were killed, condemned to horrible tortures, or simply vanished. Hundreds more were killed during the Iraq-Iran war, under the forced drafting rules, a substantial portion of the young male population. They were forced to go against their religious doctrine of not carrying weapons and never shedding blood, even in self-defences.

The concept of freedom in the Baath regime, especially religious freedom, was directly correlated with the personal favour demanded of Saddam Hussein and the regime. The Mandaeans were not an exception; they suffered politically, economically, socially, and religiously from persecution. Moreover, the Mandaeans have endured severe discrimination in employment, education, the legal system, and been subjected to forced military service and social shunning. This forced over 15,000 of the Mandaeans to flee from Iraq during that period which represents a major percentage of the total numbers of the Mandaeans in Iraq, ¹² making them the most affected minority. Also, the interference of authorities in religious matters and decisions, led lots of the Mandaean priests to leave Iraq.

```
<sup>1</sup> Mandaeans of Iraq and Iran by Lady Drowere, E. S., P 56 - 57
```

² Jean de Morgan (mission scientifique en Perse) volume 5

³ Glimpses of Life: Yahia Bihram Mandaean Priest by Jorunn J. Buckley- (History of Religions 1999 pgs 32 – 49)

⁵ Stories from a life of Ameer by Mahmooh Hamidi (Persian) P 161

⁶ Drower, E. S., The Thousand and Twelve Questions (Alf Trisar Suialia), edited in transliteration and translation by E. S. Drower

⁽Akademie Verlag Berlin: 1960 (page 1 – 2)

⁷ Drower, E. S., The Thousand and Twelve Questions (Alf Trisar Suialia), edited in transliteration and translation by E. S. Drower (Akademie Verlag Berlin: 1960 (page 2)

⁸ List of names can be obtained from the Mandaean Human Rights Group directly (secretary@mandaeanunion.org)

⁹ International Religious freedom report 2003 Released by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and labor

¹⁰ A comprehensive report about that period has been issued by the Mandaean Human Rights Group and can be requested directly from the MHRG. also look at: http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/EN_HMRG_002.htm

^{10.1} http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:sr322ats.txt.pdf

^{10.2} http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/docs/resources/2011-12_IntakeSub.pdf

¹¹ http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/Mandaean_Human_Rights_Annual_report_March%20_2008.pdf

During the last decade and before the fall of the Saddam regime, there was a surge in Islamic fundamentalist ideology both in the Sunni and Shia'a schools of thought resulting from many factors out of the scope of this report. These extreme Islamic views carry, among other things, an extreme view of how Muslims should deal with other religions such as Christianity, Judaism and Mandaeanism. Rejection and forced conversion to Islam are the only solutions these ideologies would expect. The extreme Muslims have been using all possible means including money, threats, kidnapping, intimidation and even murder, in order to force other religious minority members such as Mandaeans to convert to Islam. These tactics were successful with a lot of Mandaean families in areas like Faluja, Ramadi and some areas in Baghdad. The use of threats, intimidation, brainwashing of children, and kidnapping of girls forced a lot of Mandaean families to surrender completely and accept their fate. During that period many Mandaeans were killed for their faith only10.

Mr. Abdulhasan Majeed Jaber (born 1950) 18 yrs. old daughter Nisreen and 15 yrs. old Son Rafil were kidnapped in 1991 from Al-Shaeb quarter in Baghdad and converted to Islam, family were threatened and called infidals and Mr. Jaber was imprisoned and tortured for 42 days. He received another threat to kidnap his wife Adeebah and young son Alaa if he tries to look for his children.

According to the Senate of the United States in its resolution S. RES. 322 on 5th of August 2010, 'Whereas during the 35-year rule of the Baath Party and Saddam Hussein, and despite the Provisional Constitution of 1968 that provided for individual religious freedom in Iraq, the Government of Iraq severely limited freedom of religion, especially for religious minorities, and sought to exploit religious differences for political purposes.' 'Because of systematic, ongoing, egregious violations of religious freedom' ref 10.1.

The Australia Refugee and Humanitarian Program 2011-12 stated that 'During the regime of Saddam Hussein (1979-2003) an unknown number of people were captured, tortured, forced from their homes or killed. Kurds, Shias, Turkomans, Christians and Assyrians became victims of the Government's "Arabisation" policy and dissidents considered to be opponents to the regime were also targeted' Ref 10.2.

Sabian Mandaeans after the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime

Mandaeans, like all Iraqi people, were looking forward to a new era after the fall of the Saddam regime. They were looking for a better treatment by authorities based on citizenship and equality, but unfortunately this did not materialise. Warlords and militia controlled the streets for a long time. Religion based gangs and criminals held the laws in their hands, and common criminals were unleashed. The government failed to secure safety and security due to several reasons such as the intrinsic make up of the sectarian based sharing of power, which left the minorities, and especially the Mandaeans, with no protection. The Mandaeans are pacifists who have no clan system of protection and have no enclave to run to in times of danger. Their only self-defence means are argument, pay money or escape. All the atrocities that the Mandaeans have passed through since 2003 are documented in our previous reports11'12'13'14'15.

Australia's Refugee and Humanitarian Program 2010 – 2011 report from the Refugee Council of Australia states the fact that political turmoil in Iraq has been ongoing for a number of decades. The Iran-Iraq War from 1980 to 1988, the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the first Gulf War from 1990 to 1991 and the Coalition invasion of 2003 have all contributed to an environment of insecurity and economic hardship for the local population. ^{10,3}

The Hudson Institute in its report titled "Iraq's Vulnerable Religious Minorities." On the 13th of July 2010 stated:

'Relentless waves of bombings, assassinations, kidnappings, extortions and rapes have triggered a mass exodus of Christians, Mandeans, and Yizidis from Iraq over the past seven years. This continued this year,' 15. (2010)

¹² http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/Sabian_Mandaeans_in%20Iraq_Face_Annihilation_2007_MHRG_report.pdf

¹³ http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/EN_HMRG_011.html

¹⁴ http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/HR_report_2005.pdf

¹⁵ http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/EN_HMRG_001.htm

^{15.1}http://www.hudson.org/files/publications/STATEMENT%20OF%20NINA%20SHEA.pdf

These are examples of recent crimes against Mandaeans since our last report

On 5th of June 2011 two young men were kidnapped, Mr. Salem Latef Ghanem 36 years old and Mr Asad Sabih Ghanem 42 years old. On their way to Basra they were stopped by a policed uniform unit. They were detained and kept in a isolated hut in the mashes near Al-Izier. They were tortured severely until they disclosed all their valuables worth an estimated \$99,000.

On 23rd of February 2011 Mr. Salim Ayesh was found dead tied to a chair in his own house in Baghdad with multiple shots to his body, while his family were away.

On Thursday 13th January 2011, while walking home after work Mr. Iyad Neseri Alshawi; a young man with four children was shot in the head and was killed.

The MHRG released another circular to all its contacts on 17th January 2011 about the incidents. Another similar circular was distributed on 24th May 2010 titled "For how long will the international community watch before it acts to stop the ethnic cleansing of the Mandaeans in Iraq."

On 22nd May 2010 a young Mandaean man Mr. Baha Sori Zaggi was killed on his way home from work. He had been kidnapped before and paid a ransom of \$25,000. He was an IDP and was returned from a refugee country back to his area of Al-Dorrah in Baghdad. He had received threats prior.

Another crime against the Mandaeans of Iraq was committed on 25th April 2010 in Al-Soyyrah city – Kut, south of Baghdad, a young man aged 27, Mr Bassam Hassaney Raheim, was shot in the head by unmasked men with silenced guns in a busy marketplace in the early hours of the morning. He was transferred to a hospital in Baghdad and he died later on in hospital from his injuries on 28th April 2010.

This follows another similar killing with silenced guns with shots to the head, also to another Mandaean man Mr. Niem Younes Medlol on 8th February 2010 in Al-Saiedia district in Baghdad, which also took place in the early hours of the morning in a busy marketplace. Mr Niem Younes Medlol had returned to Baghdad from Syria to support his family as they had exhausted all their funds.

In March 2009, the Amnesty International released a report about women in Iraq, in which (on page 2) it states that "One morning, four armed masked men forced their way into a family home in Baghdad. The children and their father were beaten and shackled. Their pregnant mother was forced into another room, kicked in the abdomen, burnt with a cigarette and raped. The rapist said that he wanted to make her miscarry because of her religion. The mother lost consciousness during the assault and woke up in hospital to discover that her pregnancy had been terminated due to the injuries caused by the attack. The family, who are members of the religious minority Sabean-Mandaean community, subsequently fled the country16".

This was one of many cases where the identity of the victims was hidden. Many other cases were not reported due to fear and on specific request of the families. In an article on Middle-East Online it was claimed that since 2003 about 800 members have been killed. 17

The Society for threatened people GfBV, referred to another incident which took place on March 26 2008 in the city of Kute in Iraq where a missile attack took place on a house inhabited by two Mandaean families causing the destruction of the house and the deaths of nine women and children, as well as one young man. Another young man was seriously injured. Immediately after the attack the house was looted of its contents by armed men. Moreover the death certificates of the deceased were inconsistent and showed different causes of death. However, the house next door was not damaged by effect of the missile₁₈. This case was reported against unknown persons and the investigation was closed by the Interior Ministry of Iraq.

The details of this case was reported according to the model questionnaire provided by the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief at the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations at Geneva, according to resolution 6/37 of December 14th 2007, The Human Rights Council.

It is worth mentioning that most of the cases of killing were followed by threats to the bereaved families not to report to the police. These threats were delivered by the tribes or clans of the criminals in which they also threaten them to leave their homes or else be killed. The USCIRF (United States Commission on International Religious Freedom) met with family members of the deceased in Syria in May 2008, and was told, before the attack...had received numerous threats and warnings from extremists because of their religion (page 42 of Annual Report May 2009)19.

The UNHCR April 2009 Report on the UNHCR Eligibility Guidelines for assessing the International Protection Needs of Iraqi Asylum-Seekers, mentions that on September 8 2008, a group of men armed with silenced guns shot three Mandaeans in their family jewellery store located in a busy market in Al-Sha'ab district of Baghdad. Two brothers and an eight-year old boy were killed in this crime with multiple shots to their heads and chests. In addition, the victims' store was looted20.

In a press release on August 11 2009, it is mentioned that based on the MHRG, on Thursday 6th August 2009, another Mandaean goldsmith (Mr. Weam Abdul-Nabi Lazim) was massacred by gunmen in his jewellery shop in Iskan district in Baghdad, Iraq. The witnessed killing which happened in midmorning, was professionally executed using pistols with silencers, and took place in a closed pedestrian busy shopping centre with security controlled entrances and exits. The same method was used a few months ago when they killed three goldsmiths in Tobchi area, Baghdad and a few weeks before that, the killing of three goldsmiths with their eight-year-old son in Shaab area, Baghdad21.

On 2nd September 2009, Abdul Wahid Al-Bender and his family, (while at their house in Baghdad-Aljedida city), were attacked by armed men resulting in the killing of this elderly gentleman which also left his wife injured. When his sons tried to defend themselves, they were arrested by the authorities. Not even that, the clans of the killers are now threatening to kill all the family. This "clan" action also stopped other Mandaeans from reporting a lot of atrocities in fear of revenge22. Another heinous crime against the Mandaeans of Iraq was committed on Saturday 19th September 2009. This time it was in Basra, Iraq. Two young goldsmiths, Mr. Farqad Faiq Authman and Mr. Muhand Qasim Abdul-Razzaq, both in their twenties, were massacred by four unmasked gun men using silenced guns and knives. After several bullets in their heads they were knifed down and left to die in their shops. The gunmen looted the shops and escaped. This happened in the early morning hours in a crowded market, and no one stood up to help23.

In the case of Mrs. Ensam Mubark Mehalhal when her 10-year-old son, Saeed M. Shadood, was kidnapped for the first time on 19th March 2009, she immediately went to the police. She was told to wait three days before coming back as it was still too early. The kidnappers called her a few hours later and told her that if she contacted the police again they would kill her son (they immediately knew that the police had been contacted). Relatives had to borrow and pay the ransom of 30,000 US dollars to release the child after he had been beaten, tortured and sexually assaulted. A month later on 5th June 2009, both the mother and her son were kidnapped again for two weeks. Both were beaten, tortured, their bodies were cut with razors, and they were sexually assaulted, with continuous insults for being kaffir (infidel) and dirty. Relatives paid a ransom of \$US 40,000 to release them. The incident was reported to the Iraqi police, US FBI, State Department and the US Embassy in Baghdad as her brother-in-law is an American Mandaean citizen and was involved in the demands to pay the ransom which he refused to pay.

In our May 2010 release, we pointed out that recent incidents are taking a cyclical pattern which raises the possibility of a programmed cleansing as it is not related to the security situation in Iraq, in general. Taking into consideration the small number of Mandaeans that stayed in Iraq and despite being very careful and vigilant the incidents caused a lot of fear and disturbances in our communities, inside of Iraq, our refugees in Syria and other countries.

^{23.1} http://uscirf.gov/news-room/press-releases/3480--uscirf-urges-upgrading-security-in-iraq-for-christians-and-other-imperiled-religious-communities.html

^{23.2} http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/Living-in-Limbo-Fact-Sheet.pdf

^{23.3} http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/MDE14/002/2010/en/c9dc5d8d-95fa-46e4-8671-cd9b99d0378c/mde140022010en.pdf

²⁴ http://www.chathamhouse.org.uk/news/view/-/id/373/

²⁵a http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/MDE14/002/2010/en/c9dc5d8d-95fa-46e4-8671-cd9b99d0378c/mde140022010en.pdf

It has been noticed that the killing incidences are taking a semi-periodical sequence and there is a proportional increase in the number of kidnappings which entail various torture methods used on the victims. Many kidnappings especially those ended by the release of the kidnapped for ransom went unreported for various reasons, not least because the kidnappers threaten them to keep quiet. In our attached atrocities report from September 2009 till date the MHRG investigated 31 murders of Mandaeans, 14 kidnappings with severe assaults, torture and humiliation with ransom paid, and 33 attacks, attempted murders by weapons which left many bullet wounds that resulted in hospitalisation, mortar attacks, house bombings, threatening letters, arson attacks against elderly people, threat of forced conversion, and paying religious tax (Jizya in Islamic wording). It also included reports of atrocities that have not been reported by families during previous periods. The appendix also shows the numbers of Mandaeans killed, kidnapped, or attacked since 2003.

Several religious clergy have also been assassinated (please refer to the MHRG 2009 Annual Report) These circumstances forced a continuous wave of Mandaeans escaping from Iraq; hence our statistics show that in 2009,300 families escaped to Syria and 50 families escaped to Jordan. In 2010, 130 families escaped to Syria and 20 families escaped to Jordan, but these figures are out of the limited numbers of remaining families. The cause for this is quite clear from the following sources.

- USCIRF. (United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.) In a press release titled USCIRF Urges Upgrading Security in Iraq for Christians and Other Imperiled Religious Communities on 14th December 2010 stated that 'The smallest Iraqi religious groups including ChaldoAssyrian, Syriac, and other Christians; Sabean Mandaeans; and Yazidis face targeted violence, including murders and attacks on their places of worship and religious leaders, intimidation, and forced displacement; they also experience discrimination, marginalisation, and neglect.'23.1
- Human Rights First stated that the horrific attacks on the Christian communities in October and November confirm that religious minorities continue to face grave risks in Iraq.²³²
- Amnesty international states that the fear for their lives has driven a disproportionately high number of members of minority communities to flee Iraq in recent years. The UN Secretary General reporting on the situation in Iraq in July 2009 noted that "the recent surge in violence, particularly against minorities, has led to a continuation of Iraqis leaving the country as well as some internal displacement.

Many insurgencies involving a number of communities and organisations are struggling for power inside Iraq at the moment. The conflicts have become internalised between Iraqis as the polarisation of sectarian and ethnic identities reached ever deeper into Iraqi society and has caused the breakdown of social cohesion. This fact was recognised in a Chatham House Report in May 2007, titled "Accepting Realities in Iraq" which still holds true).24

Despite this report being released in 2007, it was noted by Amnesty International in their report 'Iraq: Civilians Under Fire' dated April 2010, that 'exposed again the vulnerability of minority groups. More than a hundred people were killed between mid-July and mid-September 2009 in attacks targeting Christians, Sabean-Mandaeans, Yazidis, Turkoman Shi'as, Shabaks and Kaka'is.' Ref 25a

IWPR (Institute for War & Peace Reporting.) recently stated in its 26th February 2010 report that "All the recent events - bombs, beheadings, and assassinations - are obvious indicators of the return of sectarian violence. These are signs that sectarianism still exists in the country". ^{25,1}

It also stated that "There is still fire under the ash; there are hidden sectarian hatreds and we expect more sectarian violence ahead of the election and even after it." 25.2

There were claims about an improvement in security in Iraq. However, this is yet to be seen and felt by our community in Iraq. The reality on the ground gives a completely different picture. Our sources identified increased atrocities per capita of Mandaeans across Iraq, which makes the

^{25.1} http://iwpr.net/report-news/iraqis-fear-renewed-sectarian-violence

^{25.2} http://iwpr.net/report-news/iraqis-fear-renewed-sectarian-violence

return of those who fled the country much more difficult.

In our 2009 report, we mentioned that in July 2009, a report from Measuring Stability and Security in Iraq to the congress, states (on page vii) that, "To institutionalise its sovereignty and stability, the GOI (Government of Iraq) must build its legitimacy through the provision of basic services and improved security for the Iraqi people, as well as the continued resolution of political, ethnic, and sectarian divisions".

Also, (on page viii), the same report mentions that, "However, in spite of the continued progress, these gains remain uneven throughout the country, and additional progress is required to produce sustainable stability. Iraq remains fragile, primarily because the underlying sources of instability have yet to be resolved, and the security progress in some areas remains reversible₂₆".

It was found that on 15th December 2010 by the UN Security Council that "The Security Council reaffirms its full support for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) in advising, supporting, and assisting the Iraqi people and Government to strengthen democratic institutions, advance inclusive dialogue and national reconciliation, facilitate regional dialogue, aid vulnerable groups, strengthen gender equality, promote the protection of human rights, including through the establishment of the Independent High Commission for Human Rights, promote the protection of affected civilians, including children, women and members of religious and ethnic minority groups, and promote judicial and legal reform." Ref 26.A

In the October 2009 report from the Institute of War and Peace, Jane Sentinel stated "The new pattern of crime in Iraq has seen the emergence of a broadening criminal class. In addition to released criminals and former security personnel, high unemployment and inflation combine to create an ideal environment for corruption and the dangerous recourse to employment by criminal groups²⁷".

On 15th December 2010, the UN Security Council mentioned in their report on Iraq that 'One cannot but be concerned over the security situation in Iraq. The terrorist threat has not abated. Armed groups are active. Ethnic and religious friction is periodically exacerbated.' Ref 27.1

The CSIS (Centre for Strategic & International Studies.) in a publication about Iraq and the United States of America stated that "The campaign and outcome of the March 2010 election showed that ethnic and sectarian political alignment remain unstable, as do Iraq's coalition politics. Many Shi'ite political leaders still fear Sunnies and neo-Ba'athists as much or more than they want to seek "Arab" support. The debates over the Election Law in November 2009 also showed how Shi'ite Kurdish coalitions can divide Iraqi politics. Iraq's Council of Representatives (CoR) only approved the Elections Law needed to authorise the national parliamentary elections on December 6, 2009, after months of negotiations which forced a delay in the election. The law had originally passed the CoR on November 8, 2009, but Vice President al-Hashimi vetoed it on the grounds that Iraqis living abroad would not be sufficiently represented. After several weeks of negotiations, political tensions in the north finally helped increase the number of seats in CoR from 275 to 325, including eight seats for minorities (five for Christians and one each for Mandaeans, Shabak and Yazidis)"²⁸

²⁶ http://www.defenselink.mil/pubs/pdfs/9010_Report_to_CongressJul09.pdf 26.A http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-

CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Iraq%20SPRST%202010%2027.pdf

²⁷ http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/pdfid/4b8fcb19d.pdf

^{27.1} http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Iraq%20SPV%206450.pdf

²⁸ http://csis.org/files/publication/100622 Cordesman IraqUSStrategicPartner WEB.pdf

6"This kind of dispute provides yet another warning that Iraqi politics can polarise and fragment along both ethnic and sectarian lines at the same time while further fragmenting within each faction."29

The Amnesty International report of 2009 for Iraq, published in 2009, mentioned that, "those targeted for kidnapping or killing have included members of religious and ethnic minorities such as Christians and Palestinians". The report also mentions women, human rights defenders, judges, medical doctors and other professionals were also targeted by armed groups₃₀.

The Danish Immigration Services reported in its fact finding mission in April 2010 to Amman, Jordan and Baghdad, Iraq, that with regard to the Sabean-Mandeans that generally the situation in Iraq has gone backwards and a far more conservative trend is winning the group. As a result, Muslims may be far more religious and less tolerant to other religious groups. Non-Muslims are easily perceived as infidels. Yazisis in particular are labelled as infidels due to their religious beliefs. However, also so-called "people of the book", i.e Christians, may not be tolerated and can risk being harassed and targeted. Harassment and threats may easily be directed at Christians who e.g. have alcohol shops.

Ethnic and religious minorities are in a violent environment often targeted as well as pressured into leaving certain locations. It was added that pressure to relocate can stem from a wish to influence demographics of certain areas. A person could be forced to sell his or her land and/or house and move away, or be deprived of services in a certain area. It was stated that pressure on minorities can cause deprivation to both authorities and local communities, but it was, however, added that the situation is highly complex. 30.1 As recently as December 2010, Human Right First stated on page 48 that the Sabeans (also known as Mandaeans) are a religious minority that has been targeted for brutal persecution in Iraq. 31

Also, on 4th March 2011, High Representative Vice President Ashton commented on behalf of The European Parliament which stated that 'the commission follows closely developments in Iraq and is deeply concerned about the recurrent violence including against persons belonging to minorities.' 32

On 2nd February 2011 the Human Rights Watch in its report titled 'At a Crossroads' stated that the armed groups proclaiming intolerant ideologies have continued their assaults on minority communities, decimating Iraq's indigenous populations, and forcing thousands to flea abroad with no plans to return. The government has failed to stop such attacks targeting minority groups, including Sabian Mandaeans, Chaldo-Assyrians, Yazidis and Shabaks. To end a climate of impunity the government must conduct thorough and impartial investigations when attacks occur and bring those responsible to justice. 34

In an interview on 10th July 2010 the Human Rights Minister in the Iraqi Government, Mr. Wigdan Mikhial said that the attacks against the religious minorities in Iraq had been conducted according to a political aim to empty Iraq from the minorities. 34

Again in April 2010, an Amnesty International report stated that 'The occupations, customs and general lack of political power of members of minorities groups have contributed to their vulnerability. For example, many Sabean Mandaeans have been targeted by criminal or other armed groups or militias because of their traditional occupations as goldsmiths and jewellers. 35

According to the Senate of the United States in its resolution S. RES. 322 on the August 5th 2010 titled "Pluralistic, and free society":

⁶ 29 http://csis.org/files/publication/100622 Cordesman IraqUSStrategicPartner WEB.pdf

³⁰ http://www.amnesty.org/en/region/iraq/report-2009

^{30.1} http://www.nyidanmark.dk/NR/rdonlyres/7F24EA1B-1DC7-48AE-81C4-

C097ADAB34FD/0/Rapport Security and HR in South Central Iraq.pdf

³¹ www.humanrightsfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/Living-in-Limbo-final.pdf

 $[\]underline{32\ www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getAllAnswers.do?reference=E-2010-011116\&language=EN$

³³ www.hrw.org/en/node/95605/section/

³⁴ www.alrafidayn.com/2009-05-26-22-07-53/18085-2010-07-01-16-15-17.html

³⁵ www.amnesty.org.uk/uploads/documents/doc_20327.pdf

)

Whereas despite the reduction in violence in Iraq in recent years, serious threats to religious freedom remain, including religiously motivated violence directed at vulnerable religious minorities, their leaders, and their holy sites, including Chaldeans, Syriacs, Assyrians, Armenians and other Christians, Sabean Mandeans, Yeazidis, Baha'is.' 36

'Iraq as a 'country of particular concern' under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, because of the systematic, ongoing, egregious violations of religious freedom in Iraq; 37

'Whereas members of small religious minority communities in Iraq do not have militia or tribal structures to defend them, often receive inadequate official protection, and are legally, politically, and economically marginalized;' 38

'religious minorities have been targeted for abuse, violence, and discrimination'; 38

'Whereas religious minorities in Iraq, who made up about 3 per cent of the population of Iraq in 2003, make up a disproportionately high percentage of registered Iraqi refugees;' 40

'Whereas the United States is gravely concerned about the viability of the indigenous Christian communities of Iraq and other religious minority communities, and the possible disappearance of their ancient languages, culture, and heritage; Whereas the Sabean Mandean community in Iraq reports that almost 90 per cent of its members have fled Iraq, leaving only about 3,500 to 5,000 Mandeans in Iraq as of 2009:'41

The USCIRF (U.S Commission on International Religious Freedom) stated in their International Religious Freedom Report 2010 dated 17th November 2010 that:

- 'Sabean-Mandaeans reported that Islamic extremists threatened assaulted, kidnapped, and killed members of their religious group for refusing to convert to Islam.' 42
- 'During the reporting period, Sabean-Mandaean leaders reported that their community continued to be targeted, although with less frequency than in the previous reporting period. In addition to being forced to convert, they reported kidnappings, with victims held for ransom. In some cases ransom was paid; however, among those cases only some were released; others were killed or remained missing. Women were pressured to wear the hijab and to marry non-Sabean-Mandaean men. Sabean-Mandaeans also reported that their gold and jewellery stores have been burglarised and robbed.' 43
- 'Section III. Status of Societal Respect for Religious Freedom: Conservative and extremist Islamic elements continued to exert pressure on society to conform to their interpretations of Islam's precepts. Although these efforts affected all citizens, non-Muslims were especially vulnerable to this pressure and violence because of their minority status and their lack of protection provided by a tribal structure. For example, Sabean-Mandaeans, who are few in number and live in small groups spread across the country, continued to report that they were targeted by Islamic militias.'

But we noticed that on 20th January 2011, 'The plight of Iraq's smallest religious minorities, including Christians and also Sabean Mandeans, and Yazidis, remains a desperate one. Victimised by discrimination, marginalisation, displacement and violence, they do not receive adequate protection and justice from the state and lack the militia or tribal structures necessary to defend themselves in the absence of government protection.' 30

On 14th December 2010 the USCIRF press released a publication stating 'The Security Council meeting is slated to address the progress in Iraq to date. The recent upsurge in attacks against Christians makes clear, however, that the country's most vulnerable religious minorities remain in peril. The smallest Iraqi religious groups, including ChaldoAssyrian, Syriac, and other Christians; Sabean Mandaeans; and Yazidis,

face targeted violence, including murders and attacks on their places of worship and religious leaders, intimidation, and forced displacement; they also experience discrimination, marginalisation, and neglect.' ⁷

In another press release by the USCIRF it is stated that 'Iraq: As tragically demonstrated by the recent upsurge in violent acts of terror against Christians in Iraq, the country's smallest religious minorities, including Christians, Mandaeans, and Yazidis face an existential threat. The U.S. and Iraqi governments must work together to develop and implement a comprehensive security plan at places of worship and other sites where these vulnerable communities congregate.' 47

It is a fact that the dominant political movements and parties are dominated by a religious ideology of different level of beliefs, but, according to the Hudson Institute, it was noticed that, "all jihadists orthodoxies hold the core animating belief of absolute intolerance for the religious "other," that is other religious and faith groups, as well as other Muslims, whether members of other Muslim groups or individual Muslims who dissent from intolerant orthodoxies⁸",47a

Looking back on the report of 2009, this raises quite a bit of concern as the USCIRF (United States Commission on International Religious Freedom) states in the Annual report of May 2009 (page 48)⁹ that, "Despite the decline in violence in the country, religiously motivated insurgent and extremist attacks continued to occur in 2008 and 2009" 476 Also (on page 51), the report also states that, "Non-Muslim religious minorities particularly Christians, were among the first to flee Iraq in response to bombings of churches, kidnappings and killings of religious leaders, and targeted violence against them because of their religion. During Commission trips to the region in 2007 and 2008, Christian, Mandaean, and Yazidi refugees and IDPs provided accounts of violent attacks, kidnapping, rape, murder, torture, forced conversion, and the destruction or seizure of property, particularly businesses such as liquor stores or hair salons deemed un-Islamic. These individuals told the Commission that they were targeted because they do not conform to orthodox Islamic practices and/or because, as non-Muslims, they are perceived to be working for the U.S led coalition forces. They also reported being forced to pay a protection tax. Many reported fleeing their homes in fear after receiving threats to "convert, leave, or die". In addition, they told of their places of worship being bombed and forced to close and their religious leaders being kidnapped and/or killed 10.47c

The Mandaeans also were distressed as another religious minority faced similar persecution; this was evident with the exodus of families when 'The cathedral bombing in November 2010, where over 50 Christians died, this was just one of a number of attacks in predominantly Christian areas'. 48

The continuation of the plight of the Mandaeans in 2009/2011 inside Iraq and the refugees in the neighboring countries, together with the asylum seekers in countries of refuge, attracted a lot of concern from many governmental institutes and NGOs. Some of the reports are quite alarming.

UNHCR guidelines of April 2009 (on page 177 / 306) stated that, "The situation of the remaining 3,500-5,000 Sabaean-Mandaeans in Iraq remains of serious concern as they continue to be singled out by Sunni and Shia'a extremists as well as criminals on the basis of their religion, profession and perceived wealth. In various religious edicts published on the internet, they have been denounced as "non-believers" who should

⁷36 http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:sr322ats.txt.pdf

³⁷ http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:sr322ats.txt.pdf

³⁸ http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:sr322ats.txt.pdf 39 http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:sr322ats.txt.pdf

⁴⁰ http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:sr322ats.txt.pdf

⁴¹ http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:sr322ats.txt.pdf

⁴⁵ http://www.hudson.org/files/publications/Nina%20Shea%20Testimony%2012011.pdf

⁴⁶ http://www.uscirf.gov/news-room/press-releases/3480--uscirf-urges-upgrading-security-in-iraq-for-christians-and-other-imperiled-religious-communities.html

⁴⁷ http://www.uscirf.gov/news-room/press-releases/3458-11172010-uscirf-comment-on-state-departments-annual-report-on-international-religious-freedom.html

^{47.}A www.hudson.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=publication_details&id=5983

^{47.}B http://www.uscirf.gov/images/AR2009/final%20ar2009%20with%20cover.pdf

^{47.}C http://www.uscirf.gov/images/AR2009/final%20ar2009%20with%20cover.pdf

be exterminated. The fact that Mandaeans generally have no tribal networks and live scattered in small groups, further increases their vulnerability. In addition, non-violence is a basic tenet of their religion 11 48a

The Home Office- UK Report of July 2009, referred to the Sabaean-Mandaeans as per the MRG (Minority Rights Group) report issued in 2008 (on page 137 / 21.49) where it states that, "Since the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003, Mandaeans have been the specific targets of violence. Mandaean women and children have been kidnapped and forcibly converted to Islam by rape, circumcision, physical beatings and even burning by bonfire. The community has suffered the looting and destruction of their houses and businesses...¹²".

In June 2008, United Nation Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), Human Rights Report (page 17, point 55) states that, "UNAMI continued to receive reports of attacks against minority groups being conducted with total impunity¹³".

On 6th March 2010 the Minority Rights Group International distributed a press release based on the 'Minorities in Iraq fear for their safety ahead of elections'. In this press release they stated that 'current security measures have failed to prevent targeted attacks on minorities'. 48c

In a separate report, but also by the Minority Rights Group International, titled 'peoples under threat' released 26th March 2010 which refers to Table 1 Ref49, stated that 'In Somalia, Iraq, Burma/Myanmar and the Democratic Republic of Congo, as well as in some of the states already discussed, gross violations of the rights of minorities, including multiple or mass killings, are ongoing'. 50

In the same report they go on to mention that 'since 2003, the Sabian Mandaeans – one of the world's oldest religious groups – have fled the country in mass numbers after targeted attacks against their community. Since then, almost 90 per cent of their community has either fled Iraq or died.' 51

On the 1st July 2010 Minority Rights Group International stated in a press release titled 'Religious intolerance now driving persecution of minorities across the world' that 'In Iraq, religious groups such as the Christians, Mandaeans, Baha'i and Yezidis, have become targets of violence, including murder, abduction, rape and looting of properties, since the 2003 US-led invasion. 52

In a press release communiqué from the Appropriations Legislative Assistant to Congressman Frank Wolf (VA-10) it is stated that 'Wolf, along with Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-CA), also co-chairs the Religious Minorities in the Middle East Caucus, and they have long pressed the State Department to develop a comprehensive policy to address the unique needs of the ancient ethno-religious faith communities in Iraq, a policy which recognises that these indigenous communities are not simply the victims of generalised violence in Iraq but are facing targeted violence which is forcing them to flee the lands they've inhabited for centuries.' 53

In addition, the Commission Chairwoman of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), Felice Gaerhe, said that, "The lack of effective [Iraqi] government action to protect those communities from abuses has established Iraq among the most dangerous places on Earth for religious minorities". The bipartisan commission recommended that Iraq be designated a "country of particular concern" as a consequence of what it called the Iraqi Government's tolerance of severe abuses of religious freedom out of a lack of capacity rather than wilful indifference 14 53a

The USCIRF annual report issued in May 2009 stated that, "The Commission recommended that the US Department of State should designate Iraq as a "country of particular concern" or CPC, based on the

 $^{{}^{48}\ \}underline{http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/49f569cf2.html}$

^{48.}A http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/publisher,UKHO,,IRQ,4a5dd1ff2,0.html

http://www.uniraq.org/documents/UNAMI_Human_Rights_Report_January_June_2008_EN.pdf

^{48.}C www.minorityrights.org/9756/press-releases/minorities-in-iraq-fear-for-their-safety-ahead-of-elections.html

 $^{49 - \}underline{\text{http://www.minorityrights.org/9885/peoples-under-threat/peoples-under-threat-2010.html}$

^{50 –} www.minorityrights.org/9885/peoples-under-threat/peoples-under-threat-2010.html

 $^{51-\}underline{www.minorityrights.org/9885/peoples-under-threat/peoples-under-threat-2010.html}$

⁵²⁻www.minorityrights.org/10071/press-releases/religious-intolerance-now-driving-persecution-of-minorities-across-the-world-new-report.html

^{53 -} http://wolf.house.gov/index.cfm?sectionid=34&itemid=1685

 $^{{}^{53.}A} \underline{\ http://www.christianexaminer.com/Articles/Articles\%20Jan09/Art_Jan09_21.html}$

ongoing, severe abuses of religious freedom in the country and the government's tolerance of these abuses, particularly against Iraq's smallest and most vulnerable religious minorities". It also stated that, "The religious freedom situation in Iraq remains grave, particularly for the smallest, most vulnerable religious minorities which include Chaldo Assyrian and other Christians, Sabaean-Mandaeans and Yazidis. In addition to lacking security, these small minorities are legally, politically, and economically marginalised, and they allege that their communities are discriminated against in the provision of essential government services and reconstruction and development aid, (page 43)¹⁵.(53.B) The Mandaean and Yazidi communities are particularly vulnerable to annihilation because a person must be born into these religions,

not convert or marry into them, and they do not proselytise or seek new adherents, (page 44)¹⁶". 53c

Women and girls in Iraq also have suffered religiously motivated violence and abuses, including killings, abductions, forced conversions, restrictions on movement, forced marriages, and reportedly other violence including rapes. Women considered to have violated Islamic teachings and other politically active females have been targeted by Sunni and Shia'a extremists alike, (page 49)¹⁷. 53d This has continued on until the current date and it was mentioned in the Amnesty International report 'Iraq: Civilians Under Fire' dated April 2010 that 'Others targeted have been women of religious minority groups who failed to adhere to a strict Islamic dress code'. 53 (1)

Since Mandaeans are pacifists and conscientious objectors by doctrine, they cannot defend themselves from this violence by carrying arms. The UNHCR guidance note, October 2005, noted, "Unlike most Iraqis, the Mandaeans do not belong to tribal groupings. In the past, Mandaeans were able to negotiate protection agreements with tribes by paying considerable sums of money. However, due to the present situation of general insecurity in Iraq, Mandaeans can no longer count on this type of arrangement and are therefore extremely vulnerable" ¹⁸.(53.E) In addition, Mandaeans do not have their own identified geographical area like other religious and ethnic minorities, but are scattered around the country. As a result it is extremely difficult to move them to one particular location as part of a protection scheme. They have therefore fled the country in large numbers to save their lives, making them the most genuine refugees. The above UNHCR guideline is further re-iterated in 17th August 2010, in a recommendation on Iraq, in a press release by USCIRF which states that 'They have lived for centuries in this region that is now Iraq, but currently experience targeted violence, have no militia or tribal structures to defend themselves, and do not receive adequate official protection.' ⁵⁴

The trend of violence against Mandaeans has continued as per the atrocities committed, keeping in our minds that a lot more people left Iraq to neighbouring countries, and more have been displaced internally within Iraq. On page 9/28, a field-visit-based report from CIGI (the centre for International Governance Innovation, Canada): *Minorities in Iraq The Other Victim*, mentions that "the Mandaeans also have some very specific concerns... their thin distribution made them especially vulnerable to sectarian violence between larger groups and they have fled the country by the tens of thousands.¹⁹ 54a

In our previous reports we have noted that confiscation of property is a common, unpunished practice. Mandaean houses have been taken in areas of Baghdad, like Dora, Adhamia, and Sidia, in addition to other cities like Basra and Baquba. As they flee the area, a Mandaean's property is immediately occupied and often, police and neighbours are unwilling to provide assistance or show concerns. In one instance, a Mandaean family, in the Adamia region of Baghdad, went to the police to register the confiscation of their house. They received no assistance from the police or the neighbours. Their case was completely dismissed, and they later received a death threat advising them to either leave Baghdad or face the consequences. A report released in 2009 by the Human Rights Watch, stated that, "In Baghdad, returnees were seldom able to reclaim their former homes²⁰".54b

 $[\]underline{\text{http://www.uscirf.gov/images/AR2009/final\%20ar2009\%20with\%20cover.pdf}}$

^{53.}C http://www.uscirf.gov/images/AR2009/final%20ar2009%20with%20cover.pdf

http://www.uscirf.gov/images/AR2009/final%20ar2009%20with%20cover.pdf

UK home office report COI. 30th of April 2007 on page 135, 21.70

 $^{53.1 - \}underline{http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/MDE14/002/2010/en/c9dc5d8d-95fa-46e4-8671-cd9b99d0378c/mde140022010en.pdf} \\ 54 \underline{www.uscirf.gov/news-room/press-releases/3281-8172010-congress-highlights-uscirfs-concerns-about-religious-minorities-in-iraq.html} \\ 64 \underline{vww.uscirf.gov/news-room/press-releases/3281-8172010-congress-highlights-uscirfs-concerns-about-religious-minorities-in-iraq.html} \\ 64 \underline{vww.uscirfs-vww.u$

^{54.}A http://www.cigionline.org/publications/2009/1/minorities-iraq-other-victims

http://www.hrw.org/en/world-report-2009/iraq

In a report by Minority Rights Group International, on 23rd February 2011 it stated that 'Property restitution does not apply to businesses or to those who were forced to sell their property or business under duress, such as Christians and Sabian Mandaeans, some of whom are notable business owners and were forced to sell or leave their businesses after threats by armed groups and Islamic insurgents. Nor does property restitution apply to those who wish to integrate into their place of displacement.' 57

Mandaeans who are unable to leave Iraq are internally displaced, moving to different cities inside the country or moving as many families together in one house in order to gain a sense of security and protection. Some have moved to Kurdistan; however there is no system of support for refugees and neither are the authorities prepared to accept refugees. With recent regulations it has become even more difficult to enter the area except for the well-off section and the highly educated. In addition, Mandaeans fear that religious persecution may be carried out by Islamic extremists whilst in Kurdistan.

As mentioned in the Minority Rights Group report 'Still targeted: Continued persecution of Iraq's minorities' the majority of the 42 Sabian Mandaean families from Baghdad have similarly fled to the Kurdistan Region, with 19 of these families citing direct threats to their life as their reason for displacement.' 54.1

Most of the families that moved to Kurdistan have subsequently left to neighbouring countries like Syria. The provisional number of families for internally displaced stands at 128 in total, and 40 families moved from other parts of the country to Kirkuk. By Oct 2009 the MHRG had been informed that most of these families and the original families started to flee to other neighbouring countries. By March 2011 65% of the families who were Internally Displaced Persons in Kurdistan left to take refuge in other countries.

Researchers of the MHRG were informed regularly that extreme discrimination is evident socially in the south of Iraq to the extent of regarding the Mandaeans unclean and untouchable, causing them extreme difficulties. This was later confirmed on 2nd February 2011, in a report titled 'At a Crossroads' by the Human Rights Watch which stated that 'Along with violence, Sabian Mandaeans whom we interviewed in Basra, Amara, and Baghdad say their communities have also suffered social and religious injustice, mainly from those "who try to ruin our standing and reputation by spreading false rumors about our religion. People here [in Iraq] are generally ignorant that we also believe that God is one. We face a lot of pressure to leave Iraq".' 55

In the same report it was also stated that. "People in our religion get harassed all the time. We can't touch the food or fish of Muslims. Some teachers won't let Sabian students drink from or share the same cup of water with other students – they need to bring their own cups in order to drink".' 56

Employment in Iraq is now related to political, sectarian and ethnic affiliation rather than qualifications. The ministries are divided among the Shia's, Sunni, and Kurdish *Or political parties* factions and they deny all other religious and ethnic minorities chances of employment. Large numbers of Mandaeans are goldsmiths and silversmiths and cannot go to work, as they are easy targets. Many of their businesses have been confiscated²¹.(57.A) According to the State Department in 2008, there was religiously based employment discrimination by the government²².48

The Mandaeans now have one voice in the parliament but it is an early stage and we are not sure about the parliament's functionality yet as remarked in 'Measuring stability and security in Iraq' in March 2010 by the Department of Defense USA, stating that 'In an increasingly positive trend, almost all political entities have focused on their national credentials and have tried to appeal to voters across the different sects and ethnic groups of Iraq. Although this focus has been limited to rhetoric'. 57b

It was also noted by Amnesty International who released a report in April 2010, entitled 'Civilians Under Fire' which stated that 'the Iraqi constitution of 2005 states that Iraq comprises "multiple nations, religions and sects" (article 3) and specifically lists some, but not all, minority groups. Article 2(2) refers to the

http://www.uscirf.gov/images/AR2009/final%20ar2009%20with%20cover.pdf page 48

^{57,A} ECRE report, 2 April 2007 <u>http://www.ecre.org/files/ECRE%20Iraq%20Guidelines%20April%202007.pdf P 19</u>

"Islamic identity of the majority of the Iraqi people" and guarantees religious freedom to other religions, explicitly mentioning Christians, Sabean-Mandaeans and Yazidis.' 58a

Mandaeans have tried to express their concerns through the political process in Iraq. However, there is no direct solid connection to any of the effective officials. Contacts with officials, religious leaders, and political party leaders have resulted in unsullied promises and no end to any of the above atrocities. Many of Iraq's most powerful and well-positioned leaders are not always working toward national interests but sectarian interests²³. 58b The police force is corrupt, often helping attackers, and has little or no role in protecting minorities²⁴.(58.B) In a public meeting in London, UK, on 2nd May 2009, Mr. Al-Maliki, the Iraqi Prime Minister, responded to a question about the Mandaean situation by denying that there isn't any special problem specific for them, claiming that Mandaeans just suffer like other Iraqis from the general political unrest and lawlessness in Iraq. Also in a public meeting in Washington DC on July 25 2009, Mr. AlMaliki repeated exactly the same words.

"The position of Iraqi Christians is vulnerable and Iraq must not be left alone to face this. It is a collective task," said Mr. Abdul Mahdi, Vice President of Iraq at a conference hosted by the French institute of International Relations in Paris on Wednesday 15th April 2009, according to Agency France-Press ²⁵_{58c}

Yet in 2011, more than a year later we have noticed that there has been no change in the vulnerability of minorities. This was also noticed by the UN Security Council in their report dated 15th December 2010 in which they mention 'Despite remarkable progress in the fight for Iraq's peace and security, there are still attempts to revive sectarian, ethnic and religious strife, such as the recent atrocities committed against Iraqi Christians.' 58.2

The HPG Humanitarian Policy Group in their March 2008 report on page 4 mentions that, "The Iraqi government has funds available, but the vast majority of this money has not been used to meet humanitarian needs, the capacity of line ministries is limited by corruption and mobility constraints, and officials have quit for fear of kidnapping and assassination²⁶". 58d

It was reported in the Human Rights Watch World Report 2009 which stated that: The government continues to rest on a narrow political and ethnic/sectarian base⁵⁰. 58e

Also it was reported in the immigration and refugee board of Canada that the new Iraqi constitution guarantees "full religious rights" to Christians, Yazidis, and Mandaean Sabeans, but also states that "no law may be enacted that contradicts the established provisions of Islam⁵¹".

It is well known that, so far, the dominant political ideology in Iraq is religious, of different variation to its extremities.

 $^{^{58.}A}\,$ http://media.usip.org/reports/iraq_study_group_report.pdf P 14

 $^{^{58.}B}$ ibid / P 13

^{58.}C http://refugeeresettlementwatch.wordpress.com/2009/04/18/iraqs-vp-wants-christians-to-stay-pledgesprotection/index.html

http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/download/1089.pdf

^{58.}E www.hrw.org/en/world-report-2009/iraq
58.2 http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/Iraq%20SPV%206450.pdf

^{58.3}http://www.defense.gov/pubs/pdfs/March%209204%20SecDef%20signed%2029%20Apr%202010_1D80.pdf

 $^{58.4 - \}underline{www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/12/01/iraq-deadly-reminders-unfinished-business}$

Threat of Extinction

Taking into consideration the very small number of Mandaeans that have dispersed over a number of countries as refugees, there is a risk of extinction of this religion by assimilation and dissolution into the surrounding religions. Accordingly, the situation must be observed very closely, because this minority, due to its religion ethnic and linguistic practices, is unable to preserve its heritage, and is thus subjected to some sort of genocide. This is very well addressed through the following facts.

On 1st December 2010, the Huffington Post stated in the 'Iraq: Deadly Reminders of Unfinished Business' report that 'The country is home to some of the world's oldest religious communities. The Chaldeans, Assyrians, and other Christians of Iraq practise a faith that can be traced directly to the era of the Apostles, an antiquity only matched by other religious minorities like the Yazidis, and the Sabian Mandaeans, who follow the teachings of John the Baptist. Now, many fear that they are the last of their faith in Iraq, soon to be hunted to extinction by the extremists. 58.4

It would seem that the situation in 2011 is even worse as pointed out by the Senate of the United States in its resolution S. RES. 322 on 5th August 2010 that 'Whereas the United States is gravely concerned about the viability of the indigenous Christian communities of Iraq and other religious minority communities, and the possible disappearance of their ancient languages, culture and heritage;

Whereas the Sabean Mandean community in Iraq reports that almost 90 percent of its members have fled Iraq, leaving only about 3,500 to 5,000 Mandeans in Iraq as of 2009; '59

It was also noticed by the Hudson Institute on the 13th July 2010 in the "Iraq's Vulnerable Religious Minorities" report that 'Iraq's other non-Muslim religions, the much smaller groups of Mandeans (followers of John the Baptist), Yizidis (an ancient angel-centered religion), Bahais and Jews are also being forced out, and in some cases, their unique language and cultures may not survive in exile.' 60

It was also noted in the 'Still Targeted: The Continued Persecution of Iraq's Minorities' by Minority Rights Group on 23rd February 2011 that 'Today it is believed that there are around 5,000 Sabian Mandaeans left in Iraq. Since marriage outside of the community is akin to renouncing their culture, the likelihood of Sabian Mandaean eradication from Iraq seems very real.' 61

This is an alarming continuation to what was mentioned before as per the following reports:

The CIGI report of January 2009 states on page 5.18 that, "Iraqi minorities are at risk of extinction⁵²". ssf

It is alarming that on the July 22 2007 LCHR (Leadership Council for Human Rights), the following is mentioned about Mandaeans in Iraq: while instances of persecution have had a damaging effect on the well-being and cultural sustainability of the Mandaean people, never has this group come so close to extinction as in the ongoing crisis in Iraq⁵³. 58g

In 2007, a letter from the Society for Threatened People GfBV, to the German chancellor states the following: "Dear Mrs Merkel, as once was the case with the Huguenots in Germany the Mandaeans need a safe and tolerant exile. Otherwise their two thousand-year-old religion, which goes back to John the Baptist, will be lost forever".

In the article *Chicago Tribune* by Liz Sly, November 16 2008, it says that, "the extinction of the Mandaean community is going to be one of the consequences of the Iraq War, an unintentional consequence, but how much more disastrous than that can you get? But Mandaeans have proved particularly vulnerable, said Nathaniel Deutsch, Professor of literature and history at the University of California Santa Cruz⁵⁴". 58h

In an article published in Politics 2009, vol. 29(2), 93-99, page 96, titled *The Plight of Iraq's Mandaeans and Honderich's Principle of Humanity*, it states that, "Mandaeans can no longer

expect a homeland in Iraq, and so require one somewhere else. It is not acceptable that Mandaeans be scattered all over the world, as they currently are 55" 58.1"

All mentioned evidence indicates that one country is needed to have the refugees, as identified by Minority Rights Group International in their report released on the September 23 2009 which states on page 36 that, "In order to avoid dispersing small minorities such as the Sabian Mandaeans and Shabaks, and risking the complete disappearance of their cultures, governments of resettlement should consider cooperating to find a solution, with a view to identify one country that could accept most refugees from a given community 56,". 61a

The UNHCR representative has listened to us expressing our concern, but yet they are still limited by a regulation that was stated by Vincent Cochetel who represents the US and the Caribbean for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees where on the 11th November 2010 he told the Associated Press that 'Nations typically don't accept entire ethnic or religious groups and that countries face capacity issues' 62

The Mandaean refugees in the middle Countries, Syria and Jordan

There are a great deal of worries, apprehension and concerns about the imminent state and future of the refugees, due to the political unrest and instability in the Middle East. We therefore urge the international community, the United Nations, and the UNHCR to accept the Mandaean refugees who are not allocated for resettlement, for immediate resettlement collectively and to expedite the processing of the other section of the Mandaean refugees who have been allocated on the resettlement process.

On the 1st September 2010 Refugees International released a statement stating that 'For the half a million refugees unable to return home, and the one and a half million Iraqis displaced inside the country, the end of US operations in Iraq does not mean that peace has returned. Their original homes and communities are either destroyed or insecure, and they remain in a dangerous and unsettled limbo.' 63.1

Mandaeans are escaping mainly to Syria and Jordan. It is rather important to point out that the Mandaean situation is different from other minorities as they do not have any identified geographical area within Iraq to go to. They have no choice other than leaving Iraq. Moreover Mandaeans are virtually unknown outside Iraq, with no international establishments that look after them, as with other religious sects.

On 19th November 2009 the Brookings Institute released a report entitled 'Resolving Iraqi Displacement: Humanitarian and Development Perspectives'. This stated that 'Flight from violence and forced displacement continue to coexist alongside other forms of migration motivated by economic, social or family issues. Decisions about leaving, staying, and returning, as well as where to go and how to get there are based on a combination of such factors, whereas a number of Iraqis, such as members of some religious minorities, leave Iraq with no thoughts of return'. 63

²⁷58.1 - http://www.amnesty.org.uk/uploads/documents/doc_20327.pdf

^{58.4 –} www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/12/01/iraq-deadly-reminders-unfinished-business

^{61.}A http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-9256.2009.01344.x/abstract

⁶² http://www.ap.org/

⁶³http://www.humansecuritygateway.com/documents/BROOKINGS_ResolvingIraqiDisplacement.pdf

^{63.1} www.refugeesinternational.org/press-room/press-release/refugees-international-statement-president-obama-dodges-long-term-responsibility

According to the UNHCR/ Syria, February 2009 report, the number of Sabean (Mandaeans) individuals registered represents 3.8% of all registered refugees. Mandaeans are mostly established in the German area of Damascus⁵⁷. Currently, there are about 300 in Jordan, mostly in Amman, which all require visas for entry. The conditions of the refugees differ only slightly between the two countries. It was noticed that a large number of families cases were processed on an individual basis and analysed, with the conclusion that they need resettlement, which by definition means that those families will not be able to go back to Iraq, and they need a third country to live in. This indicates that the vast majority of the families were subjected to severe circumstances, including persecution that makes them entitled to have refugee status and thus resettlement. In our current estimations, there are more than 5000 individuals in Syria and around 300 in Jordan that need to be included urgently in the UNHCR resettlement programme. We have noticed that because the Mandaeans are not included as a group, some of them were rejected by the UNHCR program or by other countries like Australia and USA refugee programs. We believe that most of these rejections are due to language barriers and miscommunication. These cases need to be reviewed and reassessed for eligibility, according to the group status and not as individual cases.

On 1st September 2010 Refugees International released a statement stating that 'For the half a million refugees unable to return home, and the one and a half million Iraqis displaced inside the country, the end of US operations in Iraq does not mean that peace has returned. Their original homes and communities are either destroyed or insecure, and they remain in a dangerous and unsettled limbo.' 63.1

The EU (European Union) Fact Finding mission to Jordan and Syria on resettlement of refugees from Iraq (Justice and Home Affairs, European Union Council Meeting on November 20 2008), stated on page 1 that, "In both countries there is a clear need for resettlement, as for many refugees no other durable solution is likely to be available, even in the long term. Among the refugee population there are many clear and easily identifiable cases of vulnerability: in particular persons with medical needs, victims of trauma and severe torture, female heads of households, religious minorities". It also states on page 9 V: Resettlement needs criteria prioritization of Iraqi refugees for resettlement, item 2, "Members of minority groups and/or individuals who are or have been targeted in COO owing to their religious/ethnic background⁵⁸"). 63b

In April 7 2009, Refugee International released FIELD REPORT Iraq (*Preventing the point of no return*), states on page 4 that, "The US and the international community must also turn their attention to Iraqis who will not be able to return home, whether they are refugees or internally displaced. They may be too vulnerable to return, or have reasons to fear for their safety⁵⁹". 63c

The Global Issues organisation confirms the HRW report on religious minorities in Iraq by stating in its "Iraq: Eight Years of Abuses and Impunity" report on 21st February 2011 that the HRW report also addresses the disproportionate number of religious minorities and other 'marginalised communities' that have been forced from their homes and villages due to lack of security and religious extremism. 63d

The MHRG arranged four field visits, some accompanied by European journalists and European university researchers, in 2010 to Syria and the above mentioned is still prevailing and it was also noted that:

- Another major problem that the Mandaean community faces is the huge scatter by the UNHCR and the accepting countries like USA. Mandaeans as a group should stay together and in close communities as their religion demands collectiveness in rituals and special language in addition not accepting conversion or intermarriages. Some families have been scattered all over the globe by the accepting countries. Many who had the right for resettlement are still waiting for long periods of time in hosting countries.
- Most refugees cannot afford to pay for the expensive health care systems in both Syria and Jordan. There is no system for providing proper health care for the refugees. A few humanitarian

organisations in Amman provide some health care for free, but they do not have medications to treat many acute illnesses and provide much less for chronic ones. Most malignancies are ²⁸ diagnosed late, patients are not treated, and some are left to die.

To add insult to injury, most families have no money to bury their dead. Some families started to beg in mosques and churches and some even search the dumpsters for food. Psychological problems including depression and post traumatic stress syndromes are widespread among both adults and children.

- Many families with very ill members have been declined by the accepting countries for resettlement.
- The housing conditions are atrocious as the funds available have quickly dwindled.
- Many were forced to look for any jobs available in Syria despite their high qualifications but were still unable to find work.
- The psychological situation is grim, sad and traumatic.
- Children are still forced to work but leave their education which is detrimental to the Mandaean Community
- People are in despair as they wait for their fate which has led them to suffer from depression
- Victims of post traumatic stress syndrome are getting a lot worse and have no appropriate care
- It was noticed that cracks have caused damage to the cohesion of many families.
- The Mandaean Refugees are targeted for planned conversions ^{60a (64.B)}.

In our 2009 report we pointed out the following:

θ

It is a well known fact that neither Syria nor Jordan are ready or able to deal with a large influx of refugees by their own resources. They are not refugee accepting countries. Asylum seekers and refugees are left to their own resources without any specific legal, social, medical, educational or financial help. At the border, they are given temporary stay, which when expired, they become illegal. These regulations are changeable which does not provide a sense of security. Illegal residents are not allowed to work and have no legal or social support from the governments, which makes them subject to the threat of deportation if they have an encounter with the police, even as victims. This leaves the door wide open for all sorts of abuse.

Abuse of refugees by employers is widespread. Refugees are forced to work for long hours illegally and are either paid with meals or are denied compensation and are constantly threatened with deportation if their case reaches the police. Many families have been there for years and used all of their savings. They therefore end up accepting any available employment.

Women and children are falling prey to all sorts of abuse. Pressures of illegal employment, deportation, and even hunger forces women into the pit of sexual abuse. Some girls are being lured into the sex trade and some are kidnapped and married by sex traders to be sold in other countries as sex labourers. Such cases are known but will not be reported, due to social stigma in the Middle Eastern communities.

Children cannot enter the education system easily, especially with the increase of financial burdens on their families. Most of the parents cannot afford to put their children in schools and thus many are left without education. Children are forced to work to help their parents. Some factories take advantage of the government policies regarding refugees and employ children for nominal fees and long hours. Such cases are being reported on a personal level but never reach the regulatory bodies or the police. The stagnation of these families is causing us to lose a generation due to lack of educational support and intellectual nurturing.

The situation in 2010 and 2011 had declined, as sources of very limited funding were unavailable or denied to the refugees by the international support institutes; hence the Mandaean association union had established an internal donation system of sponsoring the poor families. However, even this was hindered by the limited amount of donations, as a large part of the Mandaeans consists of newly settled refugees in the West with very limited income.

http://csis.org/files/publication/100622_Cordesman_IraqUSStrategicPartner_WEB.pdf 64b http://www.brown.uk.com/anxiety/nickerson.pdf

All the listed above increased more by 2011 as the years of suffering endured by them is continuing and their resources are dwindling. It was also noticed that a few kidnappings occurred in these countries. Threats from gangs linked to Iraqi gangs appeared. Some Iraqi kidnappers were identified by their victims and were reported to the local police; however, because the crimes happened in Iraq the criminals were freely still roaming and threatening the Mandaeans. As the security situation in Syria and Jordan is getting progressively unstable, this has led to an increase of Mandaean communities to become more apprehensive and worried. We hope that the UNHCR will expedite the process as well as other countries to accept Mandaeans directly.

It is worthwhile repeating what the USCIRF have already stated in their recommendations on Iraq in that 'These minorities include Chaldeans. Syriacs, Assyrians, Armenians and other Christians, Sabean Mandaeans, Yazidis, Baha'is, Kaka'is, Jews, and Shi'a Shabak. They have lived for centuries in the region that is now Iraq, but currently experience targeted violence, have no militia or tribal structures to defend themselves, and do not receive adequate official protection. Many have fled to neighbouring countries where they represent a disproportionately high percentage of registered Iraqi refugees, and still fear to return.' 64

We urge the UNHCR to look at the most vulnerable of the minorities. The Mandaeans do not receive particular support from any governmental or non-governmental agencies. Other Iraqi refugees have resources of financial support from countries and organisations affiliated to their faiths.

There are large Mandaean communities in Australia, Sweden and USA. We hope that the rest of the resettled refugees will follow their community to be able to continue their faith freely in a safe place.

One Mandaean family is still in Yemen and one in Libya. Their cases should be dealt with ASAP by the USA immigration authorities as they are the resettlement country as per UNHCR in Yemen and Libya.

As an advocate for the Human Rights of Mandaeans we need further help as noticed by Amnesty International in their report 'Still Targeted: Continued Persecution of Iraq's Minorities' which stated that 'more attention needs to be paid by the international community to how best they access their rights and how best their needs can be served'. 65

Mandaean Returnees

θ

On the 12th of February 2011 the UNHCR released this statement in its UNHCR, dismayed at forced repatriation of Iraqis; reports increase in flights of Iraqi Christians. The statement reports that:

Additionally, the merits of the claims of all other Iraqi applicants need to be considered carefully, including those who are religious minorities. This position reflects the volatile security situation and the still high level of violence, security incidents, and human rights violations taking place in parts of Iraq. UNHCR considers that serious – including indiscriminate – threats to life, physical integrity or freedom resulting from violence or events seriously disturbing public order are valid reasons for international protection.

If this will apply to all religious minorities, we could safely conclude that the Mandaeans will and should qualify for immediate group resettlement. 65a

The ECRE (European Council on Refugees and Exiles stated that on 3rd December 2010 in a report titled 'Stop forced returns to Iraq' that ECRE deeply regrets recent statements by the governments of the UK, Sweden and the Netherlands, to continue forced removals of Iraqi citizens despite the serious concerns raised by UNHCR and human rights organisations such as Amnesty International, an ECRE member organisation.

As the security conditions in Iraq have seriously deteriorated in recent months, ECRE urges European States to stop forcible removals there until the situation significantly improves and return in safety and dignity can be ensured. 66^{29}

On 5th November 2010, the Guardian reported that The European Court of Human Rights ruled that forcible returns to Baghdad should be suspended immediately because of an upsurge in sectarian violence and suicide bombings. 67

The above apply for Iraqis in general, but in particular it was pointed out on the 21st February 2011 by Human Rights Watch that 'Armed groups proclaiming intolerant ideologies carry out assaults on minority communities, causing grave harm to Iraq's indigenous populations and forcing thousands to flee abroad with no plans to return. The government has failed to stop attacks targeting Sabian Mandaeans, Christians, and Yazidis, among other groups. 68

On March 31 2009, in a testimony submitted by Refugee International for a hearing before the US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, (One Hundred Eleventh Congress), the first section stated on page 7 that, "The US and the international community must also turn their attention to Iraqis who will not be able to return home, whether they are refugees or internally displaced. They may be too vulnerable to return, or have reasons to fear for their safety". Also on page 4 it stated: "As for IDPs, many fear returning because returnees have been killed" 60b. 68c

On March 8 2008, Mr. Muhanad Safaa Al-Dehaisi was killed in Al-Bayaa area in Baghdad, less than twenty four hours after his return to Baghdad. He was in Jordan as a refugee and was forced to return after exhausting all his living resources. The lack-of-resources problem is getting worse for all Mandaeans in Syria and Jordan who can never return to Iraq and thus a solution has to be found urgently.

Abdul Kareem Mutashar Sbahi Al-Gaelani, a Mandaean man born on July 1 1957, was kidnapped on March 10 2007 after being deported from Denmark on December 29 2006. The victim had to pay the ransom in order to be released and then find refuge in a different country.

Tahseen Abdullah Abid Shindy was found dead after two weeks of kidnapping that took place on February 3 2007, on his way to Ramadi province after returning to Iraq from Syria. The victim's family never received the body, and left Iraq to live in Syria.

Hiatham Mahdi Saleh was brutally murdered at his house in Al-Saydiya district in Baghdad, after returning from Jordan on September 5 2006.

Raa'd Farhan Shnan was Kidnapped for more than seven months after returning to Iraq from Syria. His body was then dumped in Al-Bayaa district of Baghdad on March 19 2008 and the victim was announced dead ten days later.

The above mentioned details were re-submitted to the UNHCR office in Geneva in May 2009.

On Saturday, 19th September 2009, two young goldsmiths, Mr Farqad Faiq Authman and Mr. Muhand Qasim Abdul-Razzaq (both in their twenties), were massacred by four masked gunmen using silenced guns and knives. After several bullets in their heads, the victims were knifed down to die. Both murdered victims had been in Syria a year before, when their refugee applications were rejected by Australia. They applied for the UNHCR but their processing was delayed for some unknown reasons. After all, their money had dwindled and both returned to Basra/Iraq where they lost their lives the same morning, in a religiously motivated crime.

⁶⁵⁻http://www.minorityrights.org/10042/reports/still-targeted-continued-persecution-of-iraqs-minorities.html

^{65.}A http://www.unhcr.org.uk/news-and-views/news-list/news-detail/article/unhcr-dismayed-at-forced-repatriation-of-iraqis-reports-increase-in-flight-of-iraqi-christians.html

^{66 –} www.ecre.org/files/Stop_forced_returns_to_Iraq_Dec_2010_0.pdf

^{68.}C http://www.refugeesinternational.org/policy/testimony/return-and-resettlement-displaced-iraqis

It is quite clear that there is a lot of concern from the United Nations at the situation as per the report of the UNHCR on 12th January 2011 titled "Dismayed at forced repatriation of Iraqis; reports increase in flight of Iraqi Christians." It stated that:

θ

UNHCR is reiterating its position that asylum seekers, who originate from Iraq's governorates of Baghdad, Diyala, Ninewa and Salah-al-Din, as well as from Kirkuk province, should not be returned and should benefit from international protection, whether in the form of refugee status under the 1951 Refugee Convention or a complementary form of protection.

The Mandaean community is quite disturbed by the actions and decisions of some countries in relation to asylum seekers. Recently, some Mandaean cases (who applied for asylum on arriving in Sweden), receive immediate rejection as they were forced to return to Iraq where they would be very vulnerable. In a letter from Refugee International to the Danish government it stated:

The Mandaean community in Denmark is supposed to be qualified for special protection measures, based on the conditions currently prevailing in Iraq. 69³⁰.

The Iraqi Refugee Committee wrote in its report of 2008: "There is a need for the European Union to adopt common policies and practices toward Iraqi asylum seekers in order to harmonise protection standards and ensure that no one is forcibly returned to Iraq. Tragically, some EU member states are still sending Iraqis back to Iraq⁶². 70

It was noted that nearly 65% of the families who escaped to Arbil in the last two years, have moved to Syria and Jordan. Also, in September 2009, many families left Kirkuk too.

In a letter dated 23rd October 2006, issued by the European Centre for Kurdish studies and addressed to the highest court authority in Düsseldorf (Germany), it was mentioned that; "it is not possible for Mandaeans to establish a presence in northern Iraq due to lack of job opportunities, language difficulties and continued religious harassment by Kurdish extremists". We noticed that the same situation is consistent till date, April 2011.

The MRG 2008 report commented that; "for most Mandaeans, relocation to the KRG was not an option, as few had family or community ties in the area⁶³". 71

The United States Commission in its International Religious Freedom annual report of May 2009 states that, "Interviews with some returning refugees indicate that they are returning because of the difficult economic conditions in their countries of asylum. The Iraqi government is providing returning families with cash assistance, but concerns remain about safety, security, inadequate employment opportunities and services".

While the MPI Migration Policy Institute states in its report dated January 18 2008, *The Iraqi Refugee Crisis*: "The Need For Action (page 23), currently illegal entry is practically the only way for Iraqis to enter the EU members state in order to claim asylum. It is estimated that the cost to reach Europe from Iraq is as much as \$10,000. Not surprisingly, it is usually the elite who are able to make the trip. Even within Jordan and Syria, the majority are middle class and well educated, while the poor are left behind in Iraq⁶⁴".72

The International Rescue Committee fully agrees with the UNHCR statement of November 23, 2008 on returns to Iraq: "UNHCR does not believe that the time has come to promote, organize or encourage return". Also the (UNHCR spokesperson Jennifer Pagonis briefing note: "UNHCR cautious about returns⁶⁵". 73

 $[\]underline{^{68.D}}\,\underline{http://www.unhcr.org.uk/resources/monthly-updates/january-2011/iraq.html}$

⁶⁹ www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb/nsf/db900sid/SODA-6272WR?OpenDocument&Click

⁷⁰ http://www.humansecuritygateway.com/documents/IRC_Iraq_fiveyearslater.pdf

^{71 (}Home Office-Country Of Origin Report 2009 page 137, .21.50)

⁷² http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/MPIThe_Iraqi_Refugee_Crisis_The_Need_for_Action_011808.pdf

The UNHCR launched an appeal document (Jan 8 2008) to fund its operations for 2008 on behalf of Iraqi refugees and stresses that "UNHCR cannot, at this time, promote or encourage the return of Iraqi refugees, citing continuing security concerns and other factors⁶⁶". 74³¹

The MPI states that: "This movement back to Iraq does not necessarily indicate that conditions are improving or that returns are even voluntary⁶⁷,".³² 75

The Ministry of Displacement and Migration of Iraq and the International Organisation for Migration / Baghdad, in a report of March 2009 failed to make mention of any Mandaean returning to Iraq.

The report released in April 2008 by Refugees International stated: "Returns, largely by a lack of resources and assistance in the places of displacement, have taken place on a small scale, but have proven to be unsustainable, as many returnees ended up having to flee again⁶⁸". 76³³

What is the solution?

Through its structured communications and meetings, the Mandaean Association Union's secretarial body on a daily basis followed the concerns of the community via its associations and noticed that the alarming signs and worries had increased since their last conference between the 1st and 4th July 2009, where forty-four delegates from thirty-two Mandaean associations or their worldwide representatives, and also representatives from Iraq, met in Sodertalje, Stockholm, Sweden to discuss the Mandaean situation as an ethno religious and linguistic minority and as a indigenous people of Iraq. Long discussions took place in relation to the documents of the conference which were presented to the community members in all of the countries over six months prior to the conference. The delegates were concerned and disturbed about the Mandaeans' status, and gave alarming accounts about their very existence and continuation and sustainability as a small community with the previously mentioned specific criteria.

Our community in Iraq is still in need of active protection, as equal citizens without human rights violations. The delegates did recognise that the Mandaeans are natives of Iraq and do look forward to a peaceful and secure Iraq where all citizens can live freely.

However, the delegates expressed distressing alarm about the continuous atrocities against the Mandaeans, abuse of their heritage and property as community and as individuals, and the critical balance of security for the small numbers left there which are less than 10 per cent of the community distributed in many cities and locations.

For the Mandaeans inside Iraq:

Urgent steps:

Urgent steps are needed to provide security and build trust between the minorities and the major ruling powers. These steps can be summarised by:

• After the Iraqi authorities recognised that the problem of minorities does exist, there was a need to establish "Minorities Security Council" in Iraq. This Council should be directly linked to the PM office and include, in addition all representatives of minorities, and representatives from the UN agencies. The job of this council is to guarantee a fast response in cases of emergency, proper investigations, and follow-up plans of action to restore confidence. It would be the proper place for the minorities to voice their concerns since they have no proper representation on any level.

⁷³ http://www.rescue.org/search/node/23%20november%202008

⁷⁴ http://www.unhcr.org/news/NEWS/478395d94.html

http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/MPI-The_Iraqi_Refugee_Crisis_The_Need_for_Action_011808.pdf

www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwfiles2008.ns/filesbyrwdocUnidfilenames/SHIG-7DQBUG-full_Report.pdf/\$file/Full_Report.pdf

- The legal system should be improved, changed and cleared of the old laws that hinder the proper ability of religious minorities to practise their own way of life. The legal system has a long way until it becomes re-educated and changed to guarantee the rights of all the society to live in peace and harmony.
- The Government of Iraq (GOI) should actively punish those clergies who preach in disregard of the rights of other religions or call for discrimination in public or private The GOI should also work with the religious leaders on producing a clear Fatwa for the tolerance and acceptance of all other minorities by both Islamic Sunni and Shia'a clergies.
- The GOI should address the refugee problem responsibly and show responsibility in the humanitarian efforts and address it as an Iraqi problem rather than a UNHCR problem.
- Employment should be based on citizenship rather than party or sectarian affiliations.
- GOI should establish a true rule of law to prevent the illegal confiscation of Mandaean houses and belongings.
- A programme should be in place to guarantee the rights of minorities as an indigenous Iraqi
 population whose rights are preserved, and to maintain their properties so that they have a
 home to return to in the future.

Long term steps:

θ

- Changes in the constitution to guarantee equity based on citizenship, and to remove any religious or sectarian notions that may hinder the real democracy from being established. The GOI (Government of Iraq) should work with the Islamic religious establishment to produce "Fatwas" that recognise the Mandaeans as "People of the Book" and to prohibit any religious discrimination by actively educating society about religious co-existence through media venues, schools, and resources.
- The GOI should help build the infrastructure of the Mandaean religious establishment in Iraq and guarantee decent living for the priests as well as maintaining and establishing proper places for worship.

For the Mandaean refugees:

As for the Mandaean refugees see above: The situation of the Mandaean refugees in the middle countries.

- The international community and especially the USA, the UK, Australia, the EU countries, UNHCR, and all other NGOs, should act to prevent this humanitarian disaster from continuing: One of the oldest and most peaceful communities in the Middle East is being annihilated under the eyes of the international community⁶⁹.(77)
- The Mandaeans' continued presence as refugees in Syria and Jordan is not possible anymore. The only durable solution to the refugees' plight is to have them settled in safe countries such as Australia, USA or Sweden. As discussed above, it seems there is no chance that the situation in Iraq will be hospitable for them in the near future and their return to Iraq at the present time is not feasible. Although, it is fair to say that the safety situation may be

improving in some areas in Iraq for certain refugee populations, however this is not the case³⁴ for Mandaeans. Consequently, the only option to save Mandaeans' culture and religion from extinction is to relocate them as a group rather than individuals. Otherwise, their ancient culture, tradition, religion and language will disappear forever. The University of In Rutgers Linguist works to preserve the Mandaean language and culture articles and specifically mentions: "If you send an Iraqi Catholic to Switzerland, he will easily find a church that will embrace him, Sending four families of Mandaeans to Switzerland...what happens to their children? It's really finishing up what the insurgency has done, which is to annihilate this religion from the face of this earth". The comment is made by the General Secretary of the Mandaean Association Union.

θ

As a last resort, Mandaean refugees are randomly accepting their resettlement in different countries due to desperation, which is quite destructive to the community. In an interview by the BBC, Dr Layla Alroomi revealed: "We feel our community, our religion, and our culture are slipping away from our hands". The BBC states that, "There are fewer than 1,000 Mandaeans living in the UK. Their faith, which came before Islam and Christianity, is based on pacifism and began in what is now Iraq before the birth of Christ." Dr. Alroomi added: "We have no priest...We don't have a place to meet⁷⁰". (78)

- In a speech by Dr. Al. Roomi spokeswoman for the MHRG at the 16th session of Human Rights in Geneva, Friday 11th March 2011: "All articles of the UN related to the protection of the indigenous, religious, and ethnic minorities are compatible with the Mandaean status and should be applied. In our 2009 report we stated nearly the same and we asking for this again.
- The U.N declaration for the protection of indigenous, ethnic and religious minorities is compatible with the situation of Mandaeans, and should be applied. Furthermore, the International law for the prevention of genocide should be considered for the Mandaeans' case⁷¹. (79)³⁵.
- Because of the role and responsibility of the United States in Iraq, and the commitments that the coalition governments have made before and after the invasion of Iraq, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia have special obligations, least of which is morally to step up and save the Mandaeans and other religious minorities in Iraq⁷².(80) These governments should acknowledge that Mandaeans will not be safe from persecution in Iraq in any eventuality, and should therefore provide Mandaeans with permanent protection by accepting them for resettlement.

The United States of America, in particular, should have obligations to save the Mandaeans of Iraq. The United States Government should grant a P2 visa without delay to the Mandaean refugees as members of an extremely endangered religious minority that is at the verge of extinction due to religious persecution as recommended. In the Human Rights First report: Promises to the Persecuted, *The refugee Crisis in Iraq Act of 2008*, released April 2009 section Promises to the Persecuted- sec 5: To the State Department: Create additional P2 resettlement categories for vulnerable groups, as directed by the Act, including certain Iraqi religious and minority groups e.g. Mandaeans and LGBT Iraqis, who continue to face lifethreatening danger inside Iraq and have little prospective of safe return, including those without close family members in the United States⁷³.(81)

³⁴

 $^{^{79} \}quad http://www.genocidewatch.org/news/IraqGenocideWatchMandaeansofIraq.htm$

⁸⁰ http://www.usip.org/isg/p9 (Iraq Study Group report)

⁸¹ http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/pdf/090428-RP-iraqi-progress.pdf

⁸² www.odi.org.uk/hpg

⁸³ http://www.minorityrights.org/8132/reports/uncertain-refuge-dangerous-return-iraqs-uprooted-minorities.html

In our report posted in March 2008/2009 and 2009/2010, we pointed out the importance of a P2 Visa, and to date in 2011, this is eagerly awaited and hoped for. However, it is important to consider a few cities or localities for the resettlement instead of the current criteria where Mandaeans are scattered among more than 10 US states which makes their long term survival, as a distinctive group, questionable.

θ

Based on the HPG (Humanitarian Policy Group) Policy Brief 30 Humanitarian action in Iraq: Putting the pieces together on page one in key messages pointed out a reasonable approach to refugee Iraqi communities which applies to the Mandaeans: "There is an urgent need to establish a common humanitarian agenda in Iraq and to reassert a clear humanitarian identity. This demands that agencies establish the means to assess needs and priorities and to speak with one voice. It also demands a reaffirmation of humanitarian principles as a basis of a new compact with civil society and Iraqi communities⁷⁴". 82

In the MRG (Minority Rights Group International) annual report, released in September 2009, on page 4, it states the following: "In order to avoid dispersing more minorities such as the Sabian Mandaeans and Shabaks, and risking the complete disappearance of their cultures, governments of resettlement should consider cooperating to find a solution, with a view to identifying one country that could accept most refugees from a given community not withstanding family reunification 74a.". 83

The MHRG noticed that an ideal approach to the problem of the Mandaeans which was analysed in the report by the Refugee Council Of Australia (RCOA) Australia's Refugee and Humanitarian Program 2009-10, on page 39/40, 5.6 entitled Building cooperation between resettlement states: Current approaches of states in their resettlement negotiations with UNHCR encourage peaceful solutions, with a multitude of states regularly taking small numbers of refugees from the same refugee camps. Within each country, these refugees are often dispersed to a variety of cities and towns, with authorities in many localities simultaneously facing the challenge of finding interpreters and suitable settlement support for what was originally a single population. This is particularly problematic for a group like the Mandaeans, forced out of Iraq by terrible persecution and now struggling to maintain a religious and cultural identity as they are dispersed into many countries. Resettlement procedures cause the splitting of, not only communities in general, but also families, by resettling members of the same family to different cities sometimes. Australia could play a role in brokering discussion about how resettlement countries could permit resettled refugees to rejoin relatives who have been resettled elsewhere. Simple measures, such as adjustments to resettlement quotas, could be put in place to compensate any nation which experiences a noticeable net influx of refugees through this process. The lessons learned from this experience could help to inform UNHCR's practice in resettlement, informing attempts to reduce the incidence of families being separated in the future. RCOA believes that Australia should foster discussion, through UNHCR's Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement, and how individual countries could take primary responsibilities for resettlement of particular refugee situations. If supported, this would help to address some of the problems of dispersal mentioned earlier and enable each resettlement country to focus settlement on refugees from a smaller number of language and cultural groups⁷⁵. 84³

- UNESCO has already declared the Mandaean language a threatened language. The international community should look seriously towards helping the Mandaean refugees to resettle in one country, which permits religious freedom and help preserve their language and where a community of Mandaeans can preserve their existence for the future.
- The UNHCR has an urgent obligation to start processing more cases for resettlement, and deal
 with the Mandaeans as a group. Currently, there are more than 350 Mandaean families that
 need urgent assessment and approval for resettlement. We urge the organisation to take active

steps to provide protection for Mandaean refugees in Jordan and Syria and give them a proper legal status to prevent abuses.

- The UNHCR should consider granting all Mandaeans a full refugee status as a group and not on an individual basis, and giving them complete protection from forcible returns to Iraq guided by the RCOA (Refugee Council of Australia) analysis 76...(85)
- Proper medical and humanitarian assistance should be offered as well as financial support to agencies that can provide such help to the refugees. Active steps from the European Union and USA should also be taken to secure the funds assigned to Mandaean refugees
 - The Government of Iraq (GOI) should guarantee that each refugee should receive, at least, the basic humanitarian support, including health and education, either directly or through the UN agencies. After all, they are Iraqi citizens who escaped their country due to failure of the GOI to provide them with protection. The government has a legal and moral responsibility to give them basic support.
- The GOI should be responsible for recording and protecting the properties abundant in Iraq by Mandaeans who fled seeking for protection. This should also include protection of all Mandaean history such as documentation, and archives until such time when Mandaeans' return becomes safe.
- Militia leaders should be held accountable for crimes committed against humanity when they
 or their followers are caught by police in the future, and publicise such cases to give a firm
 signal that violence against religious minorities cannot be tolerated.
- The MHRG believes that the complexity and the seriousness of the Mandaean situation
 justifies an urgent international conference supported by the U.N and the international
 community, to analyse the future according to the self determination of Mandaeans as per
 international law and their rights as indigenous people.

Conclusion

The Mandaeans are part of the indigenous people of Iraq. They are a religious and ethnic minority that is facing annihilation. All articles of the UN declaration that apply to the protection of the indigenous, ethnic and religious minorities are compatible with the Mandaeans' situation and should be applied. The Sabian Mandaeans in Iraq are looking for protection from the hate crimes that they are facing accordingly. Mandaeans are looking for the UNHCR, USA, Australia and Sweden in particular and the international community in general to save their lives, children, and culture, and to prevent the genocide that is currently happening to them.

We believe that the situation is beyond the Mandaeans' ability to recover from this storm as they managed to do in the past. More than 85% of the Mandaean community lives abroad, and so do the vast majority of their priests. The international community should look at gathering the Mandaean refugees in one country as their only hope of continuing as one group.

There are about five thousand Mandaeans who still live in Iraq hoping that the situation will improve in the future. The community leadership inside Iraq is looking forward for active steps by the Iraqi government to improve security and build bridges of trust with them and all other minorities.

θ

Appendix

θ

Atrocities against the Sabian Mandaean Religion followers since **April 9 2003**

List of the Murdered Mandaeans

2003

- Fadha', Sadam Hummadi Obaid, April 23th, Maisan province. 1.
- Sabih Shibib Elbab (60 yrs old), April 26th, Baghdad. 2.
- Khalid Ferhan Saif, May 3rd, Basra province. 3.
- Zaman Abd Alhamid Adeed, June, Karada, Baghdad. 4.
- 5. Fakriah Khthir Kattan (housewife), July, Baghdad.
- 6. Yahya Bardan Aflog, August, Baqoubah province.
- 7. Ahsan Bardan Aflok, August, Baqoubah province.
- Nasha't Abdul Raheem Sadeq born 1948 has been targeted on the morning of August 13th 2003 8. on his way to work by militants who arranged and set him in a trap, hitting him on the head. He then taken to Al-Yarmook hospital and announced dead after few hours.
- 9. Salim Mohan Aljayzani, September, Hai AlShaab, Baghdad.
- 10. Firas Faraj Saleh, October, Habaniya, Ramadi province.
- Farooq Ati Lasam, October 9th, Baghdad. 11.
- Satar Radi Zboon, (45 yrs old), October 22nd, New Baghdad, Baghdad. Satar murdered in front 12. of large crowd.
- 13. Mohand Abd-Alsahab Almhanawi, November 7th, Baghdad.
- Dafar Abd Alrahim Khoga, November, Mansour, Baghdad. 14.
- 15. Nasir Sabah Abdallah (interpreter), November, Baghdad.
- Monther Hasson Mola Al-Khamesi, (25 yrs old), December 13th, Al Shorta/4, Baghdad. 16.

2004

- 17. Baha'a Abdalahad Mtashar, January, Maisan province.
- 18.
- Laith Anis Amoor, January 11th, Baghdad. Kasam Lafta Katen, February 7th, Baghdad. 19.
- Riyad Badri Zbari, February 10th, Baghdad. 20.
- Asad Hadi Khafi, February, Baghdad. 21.
- Shafa'a Nasar Majeed (miss), February, Baghdad. 22.
- 23. Raad Arbi Abeed, February, Baghdad.
- 24. Ahmad Mahar Abdallah, March, Baghdad.
- 25. Salman Abdallah Al-Khamisi, May, Baghdad.
- Mazin Hesnawi, May 17th 26.
- Mrs Ibtisam A Sabhan (born 01/07/1936) killed on August 1st in Baghdad for refusing to give 27. her daughter for marriage to terrorist and refusing to pay ransom. Her Son was killed in Basra in 2003 by extremists.
- Haytham Abdul-Razaq Talib, November, by Um Al Tobool Mosque, Baghdad. 28.
- 29. Yahya Haithem Abdul-Razaq (Child), November, by Um Al Tobool Mosque, Baghdad.
- 30. Rand Salam Talib, (19 yrs old), November, by Um Al Tobool Mosque, Baghdad.
- 31. Mazin Majad Hazam Al-Sabiri (45 yrs old), December 10th, Al Bayaa, Baghdad.
- 32. Abdalsada Aumarah killed in 2004 in Baghdad by hit and run speeding car leaving a wife and five daughters.

- Hadi Salim Mutar, January 3^r, Al Sader City, Baghdad. 33.
- Ryad Radhi Habib, leader of the Mandaean Council in Basra, January 16th, Basra province. 34.

- Jamal Khmas Tamol (Veterinary doctor), February 1st, Baghdad. 35.
- Wasfi Majid Khashkool (35 yrs old), February 5^t 36.
- Waleed Hasan Thabit (45 yrs old), February 28th, Al Dora, Baghdad. 37.
- Muhannad Khazaal Lafta, March, Baghdad. Lafta was bludgeoned to death with hammers. 38.
- Salwa Samir Aziz (25yrs old, miss), March, Baghdad. 39.
- Wisam Majid Khaskool Al-Mesodni, April, Amiriya, Baghdad. 40.
- Rahman Sabri Almajadi, April 14th, Baghdad. 41.
- Khairy Abdul Razaq, April 2nd, Al Mechanics, Baghdad. Murdered in his office with machine 42.

- Moayad Ibrahim Mohiy Kzar, April 11th, Baghdad. 43.
- Salah Lafta Saleh (20 yrs old), June 1st, Ramadi province, kidnapped from University by 44. extremist who had learned Saleh was a Mandaean. His body was found thrown in a street
- 45. Amar Daif Karem (18 yrs old), June, Nasreah province.
- Maher Sharad Zbala, June 6th, Baghdad, murdered in front of his family 46.
- Abdul Raheem Al-Musodani, June 15th, Al Dora, Baghdad. 47.
- Nawar Hameed Dakheel, June 28th, murdered by his house 48.
- Basim Shenshal Al-Sunaid, July 15th, Al Mansour, Baghdad. 49.
- Haitham Mahdi Saleh, July, Al Saydia, Baghdad, brutally murdered in his home 50.
- Fawzi Mezban Al-Khameesi (50 yrs old), July 31st, Baghdad. He was kidnapped from his house, 51. tortured, killed and cut into pieces. No ransom was was demanded nor was any thing stolen from
- Anwar Manam Saleh (20 yrs old), August 15th, Ramadi province. 52.
- Saeed Naeem Thahab (40 yrs old), August 24th, Baghdad. 53.
- Issam Jabar Hamadi, September 28th, Baghdad. 54.
- Marwan Salam Sabri Salman (Child), September 28th, Al Bayaa, Baghdad. 55.
- Kamal Rathi Zabon, October 10th, Baghdad. 56.
- Amiad Naeem Dhahab, October 3rd 57.
- Dafer Zaki, October 20th, Baghdad. 58.
- Basam Kasam Sokawi (19 yrs old), November 13th, Baghdad. 59.
- Khairy Satar Farhan (Contractor), November, Al Dora, Baghdad. 60.
- 61. Ahmad Zaki Al-Mandawa, November.
- 62. Sarah Najim Hani, December 28th

- Umran Sahar, February 15th, Al-Suwara. 63.
- Mahir Jameel Jeyad Al- Zuhairy, April 9th, killed after paying ransom, he was strangled, burnt 64. and threw near to a dump.
- Adel J. Al-Kalmashi, May 23rd, unknown group threatened him, Adel left the area, but has been 65. killed after been identified
- 66.
- Salam Menatei, May 26th, Baghdad, murdered in front of his family Ahmad Atta, May 28th, Al Amel, Baghdad, received threat to leave the area, he did, but was 67. killed in his shop and his body was left in the street for a while.
- Yahya Barakh Bahidh Al-Chuhaily, June 6th killed near Rumadi with an attempt to kill the whole 68. family. His two daughters and two year old son (killed on 6th of June) on the Ramadi highway.
- His wife, sister and other daughter where badly injured and in hospital. They were stoped by 69. insurgence during their escape to Jordan and killed after they knew they were Mandaeans (total number killed 3)
- Shahad Al- Chuhaily Child 3yrs, June 6th killed with father. 70.
- Noor Al- Chuhaily, Child 12 yrs, killed on June 6th with father. 71.
- Wud Al- Chuhaily, Child 14 yrs, June 6th killed with father. The Mother; Hanaa Joory Zahi (Mrs 72. Al-Chuhaily) Injured and now suffer from severe nervous breakdown because she witness one of her daughter's body being torn in two pieces. The other children, Azal 6y, Rafal 8y severe left with severe psychological trauma.
- Manhal Heliel, June, Al Shaab, Baghdad & injured his Son, June. 73.
- Jaseb Edan Lafta, June 17th, Al Sader city, Baghdad. 74.
- Atif Saeed Al-Kilany, June 19th, Baghdad. 75.
- Mezdeher Kalid Al-Muhanna, July 17th, Mahmodia area. 76.

- Raheem Rasheed Al-Sabiri, July 5th, Al Dora, Baghdad. 77.
- Zuhair Oaddah Fandi, July 7th, Al Dora, Baghdad. Rasheed Abed Wady, July 9th, Baghdad. 78.
- 79.
- Hamdan Jabak Fadhl Al-Zuhairy, July 14th, Hay Al Wehda, Baghdad 80.
- Bassam Ali Ka'aed Alkalmshi (23yrs old), July 20th, Al Shaab, Baghdad. 81.
- Shihab Algum Dukhan Al-Othmani August 27th, Deyala province. 82.
- Diyaa Noori Nasir Shiltagh Al-Musoodni, August 30th. 83.
- Kousay Sabah Shamikh Zighayer (23yrs old), August 31st, Kurkok province. 84.
- Razzak Jabbar Al-Mihanna, September 26th, Baghdad, he was slaughtered. 85.
- Fadaam Kawoosh Al-Sabahi Al-Mandawi (74 yrs old), October 6th, Killed and injured his Son 86.

- Raad Matar Falih Al-Othmani, October 10th, Al-Suwara, South of Baghdad. 87.
- Ali Riyad Saeed Dakheel Al-Khafagi, October 11th, Abo Ghraib, South of Baghdad. 88.
- Husam Jabbar Abaid Al-Zuhairi, October 16th, Baghdad. 89.
- Oday Abdulla Abid Al-Sada Al-gaylani, October 21st, Mahmoodia, South of Baghdad. 90.
- 91. Ziad Majed Sabbar Al-Zuhairi (17 yrs old), October, Al Yarmook, Baghdad.
- 92. Muhamad Fahmi Durbash Al-Dulaimi, November, Deyala province.
- Azhar Ameen, Farhan (miss), November 9th, Al Saidia, Baghdad. 93.
- Hazim Raheem Zghair Al-Zuhairi (19 yrs old), November 11th, Mahmoodia, south Baghdad, 94.
- Suhail Jani Sahar, born 1946, Nov 19th, Eskanderia 95.
- 96. Abid Kareem Hajim Sultan Al-Kulmishi, born 1929, November 21st, Hay Al Amel, Baghdad
- 97. Son of Kadir Amer Al-Khamis (Waiting for more information)
- Maysaa Harbi Thurb Al-Mahanawi (miss), November 28th, Hay Al Amel, Baghdad 98.
- 99. Talib Salman Araby, practicing to be a religious leader, November.
- Kareem Salman Araby, December 2nd, killed near his house execution style, Hay Uoor, 100. Baghdad.
- Kareem Jabbar Al- Mihanna, body found slaughtered on December 12th, Hay Al Amel, Baghdad. 101. His brother slaughtered on September 26th 2006
- Jehad salman Al-Nashi, December 26th. 102.
- Wasif Aziz Lami Al-Dehaisi, a Pharmacist, assassination attempt in December, he shot badly in 103. the back and leg, in hospital in critical condition.

- Dr Sabah Zahroun Waham Al-Sam, January, Al Mansour, Baghdad. 104.
- On January 11th 2007 the Mandaee Shakir Aboud Kammas was subjected to injury by shooting 105. with nine shots, they were targeting his life. People then transferred him to Syria for treatment, as well as fear of the return of offenders and murderers, but he died there on January 22nd.
- Abdul Wahed Ghanem Luaeby (born 1962, driver to sect leader), January 15th, Al Jaderia bridge, 106. Baghdad.
- Haleem Janzeel Muhaibes Al-Zuhairy, January 20th, Maysan province. 107.
- Hameed Ghazi Kareem Al-Eadany, February 2nd, Al Dora, Baghdad. 108.
- Ramzi Adday Al-Zuhairy, February 5th, Hay Al Amel, Baghdad. Ramzi is father to 7 daughters living in Saidia, Baghdad. His family recieved many threats by 109. phone, for arranging a furenal to him.
- Wesam Jar Allah Manhoosh Al-Sabti (born Basra 1963), killed on February 7th, Baghdad for 110. arranging a funeral for Ramzi above.
- Saidiya Saeed Al-Khafagi (Mrs), February 14th together with her boys and kidnapping her 111. daughters to unknown destination.
- Tahseen Abdullah Abid Shindy found dead after two weeks of kidnapping which took place on 112. February 3rd 2007 on the way to Ramadi province His family never received the body. Family left Iraq to live in Syria.
- Salih Mahdi Habeeb, March 11th, Saidia, Baghdad. 113.
- Husham Auda Zghair Al-Khamisi condemn publicly kidnapping his brother Saad on March 8th 114. 2007 which led to the return of same gunmen, kicking him badly, loosing conciseness then died after a week on March 15th 2007.
- The above two victim's brother Adnan killed in Anbar which led to their father passing a way as 115. a result.

- θ
- 116. Eman Ali Hoozy (Mrs), April 15th, Baghdad besides her three daughters:
- 117. Maryam Riyadh Khazaal
- 118. Malak Riyadh Khazaal
- 119. Yamama Riyadh Khazaal
- 120. Mane'e Funjan Nu'aman Al-Suhaily, April 18th, Al Ea'lam, Baghdad.
- 121. Yahya Abadi Al-Uthmani, May 4th, Nasiriya province.
- 122. Adel Mubarak Ibrahim (born 1980), May 17th, Al Dora, Baghdad.
- 123. Salama Hamdi Salih (Mrs) killed on May 22nd 2007 in a truck explosion in Al-Amel district, Baghdad Husband Atshan Khashan injured.
- Brothers Bassam and Ghasan Ma'yoof attacked by machine gun on May 25th 2007 at work at Khoor Al Zubair south of Basra killing Bassam and severely injuring his brother Ghasan.
- 125. Layla Laiby Mukalaf Al-Khamisi (Mrs.), June 12th, Al Saidia, Baghdad.
- 126. Bader Haloob Waheem Al-Khamisi, July 1st, Al Ea'lam, Baghdad.
- 127. Esam Abdul Jabbar Funjan, July 9th, Baghdad.
- 128. Noor Saad Al-Khamisi (17 yrs old), July 10th on the way back from Syria.
- 129. Aatif Jamil Muhuy Kezar Al- Khamisi (born 1965), August 5th, Al Qadisiya, Baghdad.
- 130. Arslan Aatif Abdul Raheem Al- Khamisi, August.
- Husham Kamil Muhuy Kezar Al- Khamisi born 1964 father of 3 shot and killed on September 3rd 2007 by militants on his way to work in Al-Doora district, Baghdad.
- 132. Nabeel Khaleel Nasir Jabur Al- Khamisi, September 27th, Abo Disheer, Baghdad.
- 133. Nazal Jallab Suwady Al- Mesodny, October, karkuk province.
- Abdul Nabby Abdul Sada Turfy born 1955 kidnapped in Al Bayaa district, Baghdad on October 23rd then killed on October 26th in spite paying \$ 50000 ransom. His only Son 21 yrs old Eahab kidnapped prior to this incident and released after paying ransom.
- 135. Kan'an Leelo Rayhan, November 16th, Al Bayaa, Baghdad.
- 136. Bashar Leelo Ghawi, December 12th, Maysan province.
- 137. Hani Ghadeer Hajim Al-Kuhaili, December 25th, Al Nahar street, Baghdad.
- 138. Falah Saleem Lazem, December 30th after receiving gun shots on December 25th in Al Nahar Street, Baghdad.

<u>2008</u>

- 139. Salman Abdullah Nasir killed in Falooja because no ransom has been paid for his release.
- 140. Najat Abid Gate'a widow born 1959 killed by mortar attack at parent's house in Kut on March 29th 2008 after escaping threat received in Baghdad, the attack led to the killing of another 9 members of the same family:
- 141. Son Mahdi Salih Nae'em born 1986
- 142. Son Husam Salih Nae'em born 1990
- 143. Son Yahya Salih Nae'em born 1998
- 144 Daughter Nuha Salih Nae'em (Miss) born 1995
- as Safaa Gate'a daughter in law to Mr. Abid Gate'a (Mrs) born 1980
- 146 Daughter Basma Moayad Abid Gate'a born 1999
- 147 Daughter Luma Moayad Abid Gate'a born 2001
- 148 Anhar Muhanad Abid Gate'a born 1986
- 149 Semadra Raad Da'oor born 2007, died on March 30th 2008
- Anhar Salim Khalaf killed on June 9th 2008 at his (shop) work place in Al-Ma'amoon district, Baghdad. The shop located in a close market which surrounded by four police check points.
- Mahdi Abd Al-Kareem Al- Karboli born 1953, BsC in Law killed on September 8th 2008, at his (shop) work place in Al-Sha'ab district, Baghdad besides two other member of the family:
- 152 Son Ahmad Mahdi Abd Al-Kareem Al- Karboli age 7
- 153 Brother Kamil Abd Al-Kareem Al- Karboli born 1965, technician. Total number of bullets fired at the 3 victims by unmasked gang count to 16
- 154 Young Mandaean Saif Majed Al-Majidi killed on October 12 2008 by explosion in Al-Bayaa district, Baghdad on his return from University

2009

θ

- 155 Haytham Hameed Al-Badri
- 156 Young Mandaean Uns Haytham Al-Badri, son to victim Haytham above.
- 157 Louay Asa'd Al-Badri, all above three killed on April 19th 2009 and injured two others Mandaeans after attack using guns with silencers in Al-Toobchy district, Baghdad.
- 158 Sameer Araby Shamkhi killed on April 25th 2009 in Al-Shaab district, Baghdad.
- 159 Weam Abdul-Nabi Lazim has been attacked in the morning of August 6th 2009 in Al-Iskan district, Baghdad by militants killing him using guns with silencers and looting all business belongs and valiables.
- 160 Abdul Wahid Kudami Bander Hillo's residence attacked by militants on September 2nd 2009 in Baghdad Al-Gadeda district, Baghdad leaving him dead and causing injuries to his wife Maleeha Muhawy whom taken to Al-Kundi hospital for treatment. The victim is the cousin to Sheikh Sattar head of Mandaeans community.
- 161 Muhanad Kasem Abdul Razzak (young Mandaean) killed by militant attacking him and Farkad Faiq ,another Mandaean, on September 9th 2009 in Zubair district, Basra, where he was shot twice at Kidney and stapped few times in the neck.
- 162 Farkad Faiq Authman (young Mandaean) killed by same militant on September 9th 2009 in Zubair district, Basra, where he was shot with few bullets to the chest using gun with silencers.

2010

- 163 Na'eem Younis Madlool killed on February 8th 2010 by militants in Saidia district, Baghdad
- 164 Bassam Hasany Raheem shot in the head on April 25th 2010 in Al-Suwara, South of Baghdad, then died in hospital on April 28th
- 165 Bahaa Sauri Zagi killed on his way home on May 22nd 2010 in Al Dora district, Baghdad
- 166 Riyadh Salim Hato killed on June 26th 2010 in Falooja, South of Baghdad
- 167 Tawfeek Sabti Al Othmani killed on June 26th 2010 in Basra province together with his Son Audi and injuring other Son Hazem
- 168 Audi Tawfeek Al Othmani killed on June 26th 2010 in Basra province
- 169 Arshad Abid Kashmar, 25 years old shot dead on May 25th 2010 in Al Bayaa district, Baghdad together with his brother Ahmed.
- 170 Ahmed Abid Kashmar, 21 years old shot twice on May 25th 2010 in Al Bayaa district, Baghdad and taken in intensive care at Al Yarmook hospital, but died on June 4th
- 171 Emad Najrus Doukhi Al Othmany kidnapped on September 8th 2010 in Al Sha'ab district, Baghdad and tortured then released on September 12 after paying ransom.
- 172 Abdul Kareem Shetal Zagi looted under the threat of guns on November 10th 2010 in Al Sader city district, Baghdad
- 173 Saif Ref'at a young Mandaean suffered severe injuries by a car explosion on November 26th 2010 in Al Dora district, Baghdad, admitted to intensive care and undertake major surgery until early hours of the following day.

- 174 Ayad Nasrat Jasim was killed by armed men publicly using silencers on January 13th 2011 in Al Ealam distict, Baghdad. The victim is a father of 4 (twin age 5 and twins age 2 years old)
- 175 Saleem Jaleel Ayesh was executed after being handcuffed by armed men breaking in to his house while rest of his family was away on February 23rd 2011 in Al Ealam district of Baghdad.

List of the Kidnapped Mandaeans

The following are a few examples of kidnappings. Most of the kidnappings are dealt with through intermediaries in full silence or else death will follow.

θ

- 1. Miss B. Z., May 2003, kidnapped and assaulted.
- 2. Miss N. S. S., Baghdad.
- 3. S. L. R., (age 29), July 2nd 2003, Baghadad, still missing
- 4. L.F.K., (25 yrs), Mandaean woman, October, Baghdad, still missing
- 5. Denial Salam Ajeel Shaher, child, October 27th, Baghdad
- 6. Evan Shafeeq Bader Kumar, (8 yrs. old), Baghdad
- 7. Anhar Sami Al-Bankani, child
- 8. Nofal Adel Hajwal, child, Baghdad
- 9. Samer Sabih Neema Heliel
- 10. Sinan Yas Khthier, Baghdad
- 11. Hala Asaad Al-Sayfee, child, Baghdad
- 12. Basheer Metasher Sewan, Baghdad
- 13. Ibraheem Khalil Khalf Al-Asdy, Baghdad
- 14. Fawzy Mezban Faraj, Baghdad
- 15. Kareem Salman Areiby, Baghdad
- 16. Kheiam Raheem Zahron, December 12
- 17. Kamal raed Sabri, a child kidnapped on 12 December 2004 in Al-Dura, Baghdad. Kamal's mother died as a result.
- 18. Rawan Raed Sabri, a child kidnapped on 12 December 2004 in Al-Dura, Baghdad Rawan's mother died as a result
- 19. Hawazn Druied Sabri Darweesh, September 30th, Baghdad
- 20. Rami Nezar Yaser Sakar, child, Baghdad
- 21. Hayder Zamil Rathi, Baghdad
- 22. Raed Jaseb Hathal Al-Zuhairy, Baghdad
- 23. Reyadh Dakhel Thamer Al-Khamesi, Basra
- 24. Ferace Atshan Bakhakh, Baghdad
- 25. Adel Qadory Talal, Baghdad
- 26. Shaymaa Harab Neema Hashos, Baghdad
- 27. Feras Moaaid, shot then kidnapped
- 28. Hamed Jabber Lazim Al-Saife, kidnapping attempt
- 29. Hussam Sadeq, Baghdad
- 30. Sadeq Majeed Daalag (40 yrs old), Baghdad
- 31. Adel Hekmat Sadeq, Baghdad
- 32. Ram Khabel Atwan (12 yrs old) kidnapping and force circumcision, November 11th
- 33. Salah Rumi Rhaima, March 20th 2005
- 34. Newman Jabber Farmhand, Student, March 27th 2005
- 35. Shirk Bard Kumar, March 2005
- 36. Basil Assam Latin, child, April 3rd 2005
- 37. Samia Audi Left, May 8th 2005, Al Sader city, Baghdad
- 38. Jamal Nair Mohr, May 8th 2005, Al Sader city, Baghdad
- 39. Selah Malawi, May 8th 2005, Al Sader city, Baghdad
- 40. Anther Abdul Kari Atria, June 21st 2005, Baghdad
- 41. Insam Sachet (Miss), June 27th 2005
- 42. Muwafaq Ghayadh Jabir, June 27th 2005
- 43. Khalid Abed Al-Sadaha, freed November 10th, during his captivity he witnessed 3 beheadings
- 44. Leza Saffa Khairy, child, 24 May 2004, Baghdad
- 45. Mohanad Naim Ghlaim Jari (35 yrs old) kidnapped twice one of the incidents were on 25 September 2004 in Al-Dura, Baghdad
- 46. Saif Mahir Abdul-Saheb (12 yrs old), October 12 2004, Baghdad
- 47. Alaa Samee Faraj (38 yrs old), July 7th, Baghdad
- 48. Weaam Waleed Taih Sabri (19 yrs old), July 9th, Baghdad
- 49. Ardwan Ayad Athari Shnawah, September 24th 2004, Baghdad
- 50. Basher K. Alaway, Baghdad
- 51. Zaydon Khalid Khalel Mallah, Baghdad

 θ

- 52. Mazin Shneshel Talaa Al-Khamesi, Baghdad
- 53. Wesam Essam Abdullatif, child, April 3rd, Baghdad
- 54. Zamil O. Lafta Al-Zuhairy (56 yrs old), May 8th, Baghdad
- 55. Anhr Latif Aouda Aziz, Baghdad

θ

- 56. Nabil Zaki Mozan (40 yrs old), Baghdad
- 57. Rami Abdul Razaq Aroebi, Baghdad
- 58. Rafaat Raed Mereez Farag, September 11th, Baghdad
- 59. Kamal Ward Mansour, April 18th, Baghdad
- 60. Saadia Abdullah Mozan (28 yrs old housewife), September 6th, Baghdad
- 61. Sarmad Qasem Nafil Wali (18 yrs old), October 19th, Baghdad
- 62. Malik Marzok Kaban, January 18th, Basra
- 63. Muneer Abdul-Wahed Yousif (50 yrs old), November 5th, Baghdad
- 64. Raed Jamil Zarzor, June 25th 2003, Abu Ghraib, near Baghdad
- 65. Taghreed Fadhel Muslem, Baghdad
- 66. Evan Nadeem Fazaa (28 yrs old), September 13th, Baghdad
- 67. Abdul Sattar Faris Al-Suhaily (65 yrs old), April 17th, Baghdad
- 68. Laith Hady Jabek (35 yrs old), May 25th, Baghdad
- 69. Hadi Saad Salman (47 yrs old), June 19th, Baghdad
- 70. Abady Neema, Baghdad
- 71. Suoad Hatab Sahar (40 yrs old Housewife), January 20th, Baghdad
- 72. Omar Katee Ajmy (21 yrs old), September 6th, Baghdad
- 73. Latifa O. Aziz (42 yrs old Housewife), September 10th, Baghdad
- 74. Ramez Jamal Salman Saeed (20 yrs old), August 16th, Baghdad
- 75. Omar Wasfi Jari (19 yrs old), August 25th, Baghdad
- 76. Sarmad Sameer Jabar Abdul-Nabi (39 yrs old), August 20th, Baghdad
- 77. Adel Aiesh Fatah, August 9th, Baghdad
- 78. Safaa Desher Zamil (42 yrs old), May 25th, Baghdad
- 79. Kahtan Amer Jabber (68 yrs old), September 26th, Baghdad
- 80. Dalia faisal aboud (30 yrs old Housewife), September 18th, Baghdad
- 81. Essa Abady Faleh (38 yrs old), October 10th, Baghdad
- 82. Bassam Fawzi Naeem (30 yrs old), August 19th, Baghdad
- 83. Mukhlad Raheem Kashkol, July 17th, Baghdad
- 84. Maha Saleem Hamady Aboid, a female, 2004, Baghdad
- 85. Aseel Thameen Basher Sajet, a female, October 20th 2004 in Al-Mansour, Baghdad
- 86. Khalid Layoos Afn Al-Athmani, Baghdad
- 87. Ahmad Mahir Sheck Abdullah Al-Shieckh Yahya, Baghdad
- 88. Basher Hanon Al-Kelani (60 yrs old), November, Baghdad
- 89. Helen Ahad Bader, Baghdad
- 90. Ghassan Shabeb Dhayef Al-Fregy, Baghdad
- 91. Waleed Khalid Abdul-Sada Al-Sabri, Baghdad
- 92. Jabar Nasir Thabet Al-Khamesi (50 yrs old), Baghdad
- 93. Ali Basem Talib Abd Nasir (15 yrs old), Abu-Ghraib, Baghdad
- 94. Lina Aos Anees Amour, a child, Baghdad
- 95. Maha Kareem Kargy Yasin (16 yrs old) female, Baghdad
- 96. Anmar Hafeth Dawood Nafel (18 yrs old), September, Abu-Ghraib, Baghdad
- 97. Khalid Akram Khalid Mohy (30 yrs old), July 6th, Ramadee province
- 98. Saleem Hajool Al-Chuhaily (56 yrs old) June 1st, 2005, Ramadee province
- 99. Alaa Atee (52 yrs old), September 6th
- 100. Abdul-Jabbar Khalaf Al-Meaanawi (38 yrs old), January 4th 2006, Baghdad
- 101. Intesar Saad Salman, September 12, Baghdad
- 102. Inas Saady Jabar, August 29th, Baghdad.
- 103. Ahmad Zaki Al-Mendawy, Baghdad.
- 104. Ibtesam Jouda, kidnapped in 2004, Baghdad
- 105. Amal Majeed Meklef, 2004 in Baghdad
- 106. Bushra Hamody Meklef, May 24th, Baghdad
- 107. Jwan Reyadh Hady, 2004 Baghdad
- 108. Jouda Shenan Al-Bregy, June 23rd, 2004 Baghdad
- 109. Raed Kamel Taih, December 11th, 2004, Baghdad.

- θ
- 110. Souad Hatab Sahar, October 20th, Baghdad.
- 111. Sameer Harby Sabty, September 26th, Baghdad.
- 112. Senan Khazal Atia, Baghdad
- 113. Taif Khalel Ibraheem, June 23rd, Baghdad
- 114. Aoroba Jameel Aziz (Miss), August 22nd, Baghdad.
- 115. Abdul-Wahab Saad Abdul-Wahab, 2004, Baghdad
- 116. Ohood Mwafq Maky, kidnapped in 2005 in Baghdad
- 117. Etab Najy Farhan, May 10th, Baghdad
- 118. Mushreq Abdul-Razaq Adam, August 20th, Al-Muthana province

Α

- 119. Methaq Abdul-Wahed Shenshel, August 14th, Baghdad.
- 120. Majed Katee Yousif, Baghdad
- 121. Melad Oday Yousif, Thi Qar province
- 122. Mazin Myaser Mahdy, February 22nd, Baghdad
- 123. Mansour Jabar Mansour and wife, 2005, Baghdad
- 124. Nashwan Kahtasn Amer, September 18th, Baghdad
- 125. Awras Abdul-Satar Faris, August 25th, Baghdad
- 126. Abdul-Wahab Saeed
- 127. Senan Khazaal
- 128. Taif Khalil, June 23rd, 2004
- 129. Yohana Abdul Kathem
- 130. Hayder Zamil Rathe
- 131. Ram Wasfi
- 132. Raed Jaseb
- 133. Yahya Kathem
- 134. Aziz Sanhour
- 135. Afyaa Nory rasead
- 136. Ansar Mnady
- 137. Shaheed Kareem
- 138. Aseel Basher, October 20th, 2004
- 139. Muthafer Halbos
- 140. Najwan Jabber Farhan, March 27th 2005
- 141. Emad Jabar Khalaf, January 4th, 2006, Baghdad
- 142. Asmah Qasem Nafee, October 21st, 2005
- 143. Ban Toma Zaki, May 2005, Baghdad
- 144. Suha Lateef Raheem July 2nd, 2004
- 145. Lez Safaa Khairy, May 24th, 2004
- 146. Laith Bassam Husny, September 2nd, 2004
- 147. Mahdy Sabah Helo, kidnapped with attempt to murder
- 148. Basim Essam Lateef, April 3rd, 2005
- 149. Mohammad Saleem Hamady, October 27th, 2004
- 150. Hanaa G. Najim
- 151. Bahaa Amen Shnawa, January 7th, 2006
- 152. Sami Kareem Taresh, December 29th 2005, Baghdad
- 153. Dhafer Al-Zohairy, February 12 2006, Al-Ramady province
- 154. Fareed Atia Al-Khamesy, February 12 2006, Al-Ramady province
- 155. Jabar Al-Mesodnay, March 2nd 2006
- 156. Hamody Metasher, April 2nd 2006
- 157. Susan Aziz Sayhood (Mrs), baby son and mother-in-law Rabeeaa Gea'as kidnapped April 06 in Baghdad. They were assaulted and beaten up which led to the death of the baby.
- 158. Arslan Atif Abdul-Raheem, May 1st 2006
- 159. Leaby Thamer Al-Kalmashi, May 10th 2006
- 160. Maytham Jabar Mutar, May 14th 2006
- 161. Yahya Mohammewd Bayo, (child), May 17th 2006, Baghdad
- 162. Aiad Tarik Galim, May 25th 2006, Baghdad
- 163. Adel Haider Shibeeb, May 27th 2006, Baladroose
- 164. Hadeel Tawfeeq Al- Geezani (Miss), June 22nd 2006
- 165. Nael Al- Zuhairi & family, July 1st 2006, Basra province
- 166. Asa'd Sabah Salman Saadawi, July 10th 2006, Baghdad

- 167. Saeed Sabah, July 10th 2006
- 168. Sarmad Rajee Barghash, July 12 2006
- 169. Muhamad Fahmi, July 14th 2006, Al-Mukhdadia
- 170. Abood Al-Zuhairy, July 18th 2006
- 171. Ra'ad Shatan, July 2006 on his way out to Syria
- 172. Muhanad Mishkal Al-Misodni, July 06, Basra province
- 173. Nadeg Ghazaal Hammady, July 19th 2006
- 174. Dheyaa Yasir Mauhey, July 27th 2006, Deyala province
- 175. Raad Matar Faleh, Seweara, shot and injured
- 176. Kamil Noori Al-kuhaily, August 2006, Basra province
- 177. Sarah Sadi Muslim (15 yrs old), August 2006, Syria
- 178. Dr. Nisreen Abd Al-Lateef Jaleel, a dentist kidnapped August 7th 2006 in Baghdad. Attempt to murder.
- 179. Nashwan Sameer Dehrab, August 10th 2006, Baghdad
- 180. Basil Humam Abd Al-Ghani, August 13th 2006, Baghdad
- 181. Salwan Sameer Dahrab, August 17th 2006, Baghdad
- 182. Mubarak Hameed Mageed, August 23rd 2006, Baghdad
- 183. Son of Mr. Diyaa Noori Nasir Shiltagh Al-Musoodni, kidnapped August 28th 2006 Baghdad, murder threat but survived the incident. His father a university lecturer passed away as a result of the shock.
- 184. Sami Glass Al-Mandawi, August 29th 2006, Kut province
- 185. Wajdy Abd Al-Jabar Munhal, September 5th 2006
- 186. Firas Shaker Ghlaeem
- 187. Nassir Hantoosh Eedan Al- Mihana, September 5th 2006
- 188. Kamal Fakhri and Son Suroor, September 17th 2006, on their way to Syria
- 189. Kusai Saeed Salih, September 29th 2006, Heat City
- 190. Muhanad Wesam Sami, September 29th 2006, Heat City
- 191. Jasim Rashid Al-Zuhairy, October 1st 2006, Baghdad Kidnapped after being shot in his back
- 192. Nasrat Abdul jabber Dhamad, October 1st 2006, Baghdad
- 193. Ayar Sattar Fadhil, Basra province
- 194. Louay Haraj Madlool Al-Suhairy kidnapped on October 22nd 2006 on the way Syria
- 195. Safaa Sauri Zagi Al-Khamisi, November 16th 2006, Baghdad
- 196. Hamid Abood Fandi, November 16th 2006, Baghdad
- 197. Rashad Jabar Khalaf, November 16th 2006, Baghdad
- 198. Louay Akram Hayder Hazim 18 yrs old student kidnapped, assaulted, circumcised by force and threatened to kill his family, then released after paying ransom.
- 199. Sadik Abid Allah Jabar Al-Kulmishi and brother, November 29th 2006, Baghdad
- 200. Jamal Warid Mansour Al-Muhana (48 yrs old), December 2nd 2006, Thee-qar province
- 201. Kareem Jabbar Al- Mihanna, December 4th 2006, Baghdad
- 202. Louay Sauri Zagi Al-Khamisi, December 2006, Baghdad
- 203. Feras Sallom AlShaikh Farag (43 yrs old), December 23rd 2006, Baghdad
- 204. Faris Aomara Al-Mandawi, January 2007, Diyala province
- 205. Two daughter to Hamil Musha'l Lazim's family age 14 &16, January 3rd 2007, Shahraban
- 206. Sabah Suhail Al-Mhanawi, January 8th 2007, Baghdad
- 207. Mahmood Shukry Johar, January 11th 2007, Baghdad
- 208. Rasha Thaer (Miss), January 12th 2007, Baghdad
- 209. Diyaa Hasson Bakhal, January 13th 2007, Baghdad
- 210. Faris Al-Kuhaili, January 15th 2007
- 211. Husam Zaki Al-Sheikh Khazaal, January 15th 2007, Baghdad
- 212. Faris Emara Al-Mandawi, January 17th 2007, Diyala Province
- 213. Maytham Abd Al-Razzak Talib Al-Kulmishi, January 25th 2007 Baghdad
- 214. Family of young Mandaean Saadi Majed Hazim Al-Sabery disappeared on the way to Dewaniya January 27th 2007, which included:
- 215. Mum; Layla Saeed
- 216. Wife; Azhar Atwan Shareef Al-Gailani
- 217. Son; Ahmed Saadi Al-Sabery
- 218. Daughters; Sara Saadi Al-Sabery
- 219. Maryam Saadi Al-Sabery
- 220. Narjes Saadi Al-Sabery

- 221. Esam Aasif Aziz Lamy, January 30th 2007
- 222. Jasim Rashid Mansoor Al-Zuhairy, February 2nd 2007, Baghdad
- 223. Tahseen Abdullah Abid Shindy, February 3rd 2007, Ramadi province
- 224. Abid Al-Sahib Dawood Nafil kidnapped on February 3rd 2007, released after paying \$20,000

- 225. Husham Jasim Shawi Al-Kalmishi, February 4th 2007, Baghdad
- 226. Tahseen Satar Helal, February 11th 2007, Baghdad
- 227. Dhafir Jasib Hathal, February 11th 2007, Baghdad
- 228. Rana Hellael Al-Zuhairy (miss), February 26th 2007, Baghdad
- 229. Sheikh Munther Leelo (religious leader) kidnapped by Al-Mahdi army; they had his hair cut and his beard shaved by force. Then on March 1st 2007 he was hit by an explosive in Baghdad and had to undertake major surgery as a result.
- 230. Salwan Adel Abid Al-Sattar (17 yrs old), March 1st 2007, Baghdad
- 231. Nisreen Abadi Hattab kidnapped on March 3rd 2007 by militant in Al-Mansoor district, Baghdad while going to work, then released after paying ransom.
- 232. Saad Auda Zghair Al-Khamisi, March 8th 2007, Baghdad
- 233. Abdul Kareem Mutashar Sbahi Al-gaelani, March 10th 2007
- 234. Ihsan Nasrat Bahoor kidnapped on April 2007 in Al-Mansoor district, Baghdad, but managed to escape his captors.
- 235. Maged Sabri Bahidh Al-Furaegi, April 25th 2007, Baghdad
- 236. Humam Abid Al-Jabbar Abbod Dummad, April 30th 2007, Baghdad
- 237. Son to Adel Abed Al-Sattar (17 yrs old), Baghdad
- 238. Thaer Ibrahim Sabti Sahar, May 8th 2007, Baghdad
- 239. Feras Auoda Gurry (born 1977), May 17th 2007, Baghdad
- 240. Munther Azzawi, May 17th 2007, Baghdad
- 241. Ranya Atheer, a female, Baghdad
- 242. Saad Jabbar Salih kidnapped by militant on May 22nd 2007 in Al-Doora district, Baghdad, released after paying ransom
- 243. Khalid Mura'z AlKhamisi, May 24th 2007, Baghdad
- 244. Rami Raheem Jaralla Manhoosh Al-Sabty, May 28th 2007, Basra province
- 245. Ihsan Jallawi (born 1981), June 9th 2007, Baghdad
- 246. Mua'taz Aziz Mageed Layeth kidnapped on June 18th 2007 by militants in Al-Doora district, Baghdad. He was tortured and released on June 20th 2007 after paying ransom and they threatened the family not to return to their house.
- 247. Suhail Gani Al- Nashi, June 2007, Baghdad
- 248. Talib Jaloob Al-Shaikh Jitheer kidnapped by militant on June 21st 2007 in Al-Doora district, Baghdad, released after paying ransom
- 249. Fadhil Rasham, July 9th 2007, Baghdad
- 250. Ali Abdul Khalik Abdullah (10 yrs old), July 24th 2007
- 251. Malik Aziz Al-Suhali, August 1st 2007, Baghdad
- 252. Nibras Noori Sabti Sahar (Miss), October 10th 2007
- 253. Emad Aziz Khasaf, October 24th 2007, Baghdad
- 254. Dr. Asaad Jabbar Al-Nashi kidnapped by militants on November 5th 2007 in Al-Saidia, Baghdad, tortured and then released after paying ransom
- 255. Tahseen Sattar Al-Zuhairy, December 12 2007, Baghdad
- 256. Muhanad Lateef, December 27th 2007, Baghdad
- 257. Ayad Araak Muzher kidnapped on January 10th 2008 then released on October 14th after paying ransom
- 258. Ayad Farhan Al-Khamisi born 1984 kidnapped on January 2008 between Iraq and Kuwait and tortured for a whole week then released after paying \$50,000 ransom
- 259. Fadaa Shukry Bader (Mrs), 29, together with 4 yrs old daughter Ameera Asaad and two and a half yrs old son Ameer Asaad kidnapped in Al-Saidia, Baghdad on April 14th 2008. Family managed to secure the release of Fadaa and her daughter.
- 260. Deyaa Talib Muhyee Al-Khamisi kidnapped on April 21st 2008 in Al- Sha'ab district, Baghdad, released after paying ransom.
- 261. Abdullah Muhabis Ghaiad kidnapped on April 29th 2008 by militant in Al- Sha'ab district, Baghdad, released on May 3rd 2008 after paying ransom.
- 262. Saeed Ghareeb Al-Khafagi kidnapped on May 13th 2008 in Al-Saidia district, Baghdad and tortured, finally released after paying ransom.

263. Jasib Mehawi Sailan kidnapped on June 18th 2008 by militant in Al- Thawra district, Baghdad while leaving work.

θ

- 264. Bahram Hakeem Noori Al-Dehasi 18 yrs old Mandaean kidnapped on July 08 by militant in Al-Zubair, Basra, \$150000 ransom has been demanded for his release.
- 265. Sa'ad Fakher Herez, a goldsmith kidnapped on September 25th 2008 in Al Hossinia district, Baghdad and released on 26th after paying ransom.
- 266. Asa'd Abd Al-Zahra Abdullah kidnapped on December 7th 2008 in Al Habebia then released on the same day.
- 267.11 yrs old boy Saeed Mazin Saeed kidnapped on March 10th 2009 close to his house in Phalestine street, Baghdad then released after paying \$25,000 ransom.
- 268. Young Mandaean Rami Mu'een Jasim kidnapped on May 7th 2009 in Baghdad Al-Jadeda district, Baghdad after his dad was shot a few times. Rami was released by a police patrol which was passing by coincidence. Ansam Mubarak Muhalhel (Mrs) kidnapped on June 5th 2009 from Phalestine street, Baghdad together with her 11 yrs old Son Saeed who has been kidnapped before on March 10th 2009 (see 269 above)
- 269. Both were released two weeks later after paying \$40,000 ransom. The woman and her son had been tortured and beaten and her body and face were cut by a razor.
- 270. Kamel Henady kidnapped by gang that consisted of four militants, on October 31st 2009 from Hay Al Amel, Baghdad. Released after being assaulted and beaten.
- 271. Salim Lateef Ghanim and Asa'd Sabeeh Ghanim, both kidnapped on the way to Baghdad from AlAzair on June 2011, families had to pay \$100,000 ransom for their release.

Threats and Assaults

- 1. In different areas in Iraq (both Shiaa and Suni areas) like Sadr City in Baghdad (Shiaa area), Falluja (Suni area) and Basra (mixed), during the Friday mosque sermon, extremist clerics have declared that it is religiously acceptable to attack and loot the property of the "infidels" as long as part of the loot is given for the "Islamic cause".
- 2. May 2003: The arson of the alcohol brewery and looting of belongings of Salam Ajil Shahir's in Baquba city.
- 3. May 7th 2003: The Mandaean community in Baghdad was terrified by the brutal attack on Mr. Mahir Sherad Zebala, his pregnant wife and their four children ages 10, 7, 4, and 2 in their house in Saidia, Baghdad by thugs shouting religious slurs against the Mandaean religion.
- 4. The burning of a house and personal property in Hawijah, Kirkuk. This act of arson resulted in the murder of a handicapped 23-year-old Mandaean girl who was unable to flee the house.
- 5. April through June of 2003 saw the destruction of homes and businesses with explosives in Sowerah, Kut. The criminals who committed these bombing attacks were well-known Muslim extremists from the area. The following is a list of the victims:
 - 1) Haitham Faige Al Othmani, April 20th 2003
 - 2) Raad Mutar Falih Al Othmani, June 13th 2003
 - 2) Ehsan Faiqe Al Othmani, June 15th 2003
 - 3) Qaise Tua'mah Al Othmani, June 20th 2003
 - 4) Abdullah Menkhi Al Chohaili, June 20th 2003
- 6. The houses of Fadhel Muhannawi Al Chuhaily and Kamil Gonfuth Al Chuhaily were damaged by two separate grenade attacks on June 10th 2003. The residents were asked to move out of the area or be killed.
- A bomb was detonated at the house of Halima Fadhel Gzar on June 10th 2003 in Kadessia City.
 When the bomb failed to do the expected damage, machine gun fire riddled the house and destroyed it
- 8. Sam Hannon Al Othmani was assaulted by gunshots on June 15th 2003 in Sowerah, south Baghdad.
- 9. Karim Askar Al Othmani was assaulted by mobs accusing him of practising 'Magic', June 26th 2003, Sowerah south Baghdad.
- 10. Jabbar Muhattam suffered gunfire and destruction of the contents of his store. This act was committed by unknown person(s); the excuse given for the assault was 'the selling of alcoholic drinks'.

- Both Sheikh Karim Selman Uraibi and his brother Talib suffer an armed assault with an attempt 11. to murder on July 2nd for being Mandaean priests.
- Six Mandaean jewellery stores were damaged by gunfire on a single night in Sadr City. The 12. original intent was to kill the owners. The following statement was written on one of the six stores: "Your day is coming sub'ba!" Sub'ba (Subi) is a name used quite frequently by the local Muslims instead of the term Mandaean.
- Attaching of leaflets in the jewellery shopping centre of Al Jamhuria City in Basra in which the 13. Mandaeans are accused of magic and fornication, then threatened with imminent severe
- Yosif Beshir Gatea and Behjet Frhan Gatea were physically assaulted, and their jewellery store 14. was looted on July 3rd in Habibia, Baghdad. The incident happened with the use of grenades and in front of crowds.
- Mrs. Rafah Dawod Selman was assaulted; a payment of ransom was demanded. She was also 15. threatened to be killed if she did not move out.
- Mr. Salam Sabri was assaulted and robbed at gunpoint in front of witnesses, July 7th 2003, 16. Karada, Baghdad. The act was combined with the use of ethnic and religious slurs.
- Mr. Basim Mohi's son Basra was kidnapped.. The kidnappers demanded a ransom. He was 17. released with the help of the British forces. Soon after the boy was returned, the kidnappers terrorised the family again this time with messages that all "Sb'ba" (Mandaeans) would die. The family escaped the area.
- Armed attack was perpetrated on Tarmetha Muthana Majeed Glas's house on January 7th 2005. 18. Glas is a Mandaean priest.
- Armed attack was perpetrated on Salem Turfi Aziz's house in Kirkuk on January 10th 2005. Aziz 19. is the head of the Mandaean Community in Kirkuk.
- Armed attack was perpetrated on Naseer Jasim Dhamin's house on January 20th 2005. Dhamin 20. was shot and badly injured.
- Aseel Raad Fayadh was shot and badly injured on January 29th 2005 in Al-Saidvah, Baghdad. 21.
- Armed attack was perpetrated on Adel Dishar Zamil's house in Kut province on March 23rd 22. 2005. Zamil is the head of the Mandaean Community in Wasit. A threat was written on the main door of the house stating, "You infidels, pay the tribute, or you will be killed."
- Engineer Akram Salman's family was attacked by unknown persons on May 26th 2005. His wife, 23. three months pregnant, was badly beaten and lost her unborn child. His son Sinan was kidnapped.
- Rumi Rhaima's house was attacked on June 10th 2005. His pregnant daughter-in-law Eman 24. Kraidy Rhaima was badly beaten and lost her unborn child.
- 25. Adel Aziz Khisaf's shop was robbed on June 13th 2005. He had refused to pay the Mujahideen (an extremist Islamic group). His shop was destroyed and his life threatened.
- 26. Khalid Akram Khalid was robbed and badly beaten, July 16th 2005, Anbar province.
- Fadhil Khalawi was robbed and badly beaten, July 24th 2005, Basra province. Jameel Jebr was robbed and badly beaten, July 24th 2005, Basra province. 27.
- 28.
- Dr. Hamed Baheth Kazar (Dentist), killing threat, September 1st 2005, Dura, Baghdad 29.
- 30. Yahya Reyadh Hekmat, Shooting, Student, August 20th 2005, Al-Bayaa, Baghdad.
- Salman Helo Hekmat (Goldsmith), killing threat, February 22nd 2005, Al-Bayaa, Baghdad. 31.
- Emad Younis Sarhan (TV. Director), threat, July 13th 2005. 32.
- Dr. Sarmad Haleem Barakat (Surgeon), threat of killing, April 4th 2005 & July 10th 2005, Al-33. Karkh Hospital, because he is Mandaean infidel.
- Adel Ibraheem Adm (Goldsmith), killing threat, looting, August 6th 2005, Goldsmith market, 34. Baaqoba province.
- 35. Rabha Baaio Subeh (working at Air Port), threat, Al-Qadesia, Baghdad.
- Saad Amarah Amthael (Goldsmith), threat, May 3rd 2005, Al-Thawra, Baghdad, abandoned his 36. house because of the threat.
- Waseem Balasem Naeem (4th year medical student), threat, October 2005, Al-Ramady province. 37.
- Salam Waeel Al-Mubarky (goldsmith), threatened and shot at while at his shop, November 27th 2005, Al-Shorta, Baghdad.
- Khazaal Sabah Zemam Al-Zuhairy (goldsmith), killing threat, August 14th 2005, Baghdad. 39.
- Marleen Reyadh Hekmat (employee at The Interir Ministry), killing threat, August 20th 2005, Al-40. Bayaa, Baghdad.
- Saad Amarah Nafel, threat, August 5th 2005, Al-Thawara, Baghdad. 41.

- 42. Adnan Jabar Helo, brother to sect chief, threat, 2005, Baghdad.
- 43. Dr. Zeiad Abdul-Kareem Al-Sayfi (Dentist), killing threat and instructed to close his clinic because he is Mandaean, 2005, Baghdad.
- 44. Salah Yousif Naseem, killing threat and shot at while he was home, September 30th 2005, Dura, Baghdad.
- 45. Mejbel Jabar Helo, brother to the sect chief, attack.
- 46. Raed Zahron Shalash (goldsmith) received killing threat along with his family, October 14th 2004, Al-Bayaa, Baghdad.
- 47. Satar Kredy Rahema (pharmacist), threat and attack burning his pharmacy, October 28th 2004, Abu Desher, Baghdad.
- 48. Kherallah Zahron Meaarg (religious leader), Attack, 2004, Baghdad
- 49. Adel Talib Abdullah (goldsmith), threat, November 7th 2004, Abu Ghareeb, Baghdad.
- 50. Zoher Raheem Dawwod (goldsmith), threat paper delivered, shot at while he was home, November 10th 2004, Abu Ghareeb, Baghdad.
- 51. Sabah Mahdy Jelab (goldsmith), He had to leave his house after receiving threats to save his life, Baghdad
- 52. Salam Zarzor Wady (goldsmith), attacking his house forcing the family to leave the area where they live, November 11th 2004, Abu Ghareeb, Baghdad.
- 53. Zahron Khalaf Khayon (goldsmith), threat either to pay ransom or change religion, 2004, Baghdad.
- 54. Satar Talib Nasir (goldsmith), threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 55. Waeel Salman Dawwod (goldsmith), threat & attack, November 2004, Abu Ghareeb, Baghdad.
- 56. Zaki Mubark Masbob (goldsmith), threat, September 8th 2004, Abu Ghareeb, Baghdad.
- 57. Fahmy Shanan Helo (goldsmith), threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 58. Majed Saad (goldsmith), threats forcing to change his religion, 2004, Baghdad.
- 59. Sabah Helo Bander (goldsmith), threat and burglary to his shop, 2004, Baghdad.
- 60. Thamer Jabber Shamkhy (goldsmith), threat, 2004, Baghdad
- Majed Naser Ayesh (goldsmith), threats forcing him to change his religion and shop burgled, 2004, Baghdad,
- 62. Salwan Hejan (goldsmith), threats forcing him to change his religion, 2004, Baghdad
- 63. Zahron Khalaf khayon (goldsmith), killing threat, 2004, Baghdad and threats against his Sons Ayad & Emad
- Raad Jabar Helo (goldsmith), threat, 2004, Baghdad because he is the brother of the Sect Chief.
- 65. Jameel Saad Helo (goldsmith), threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 66. Saleem Jyad Al-Msodny (goldsmith), killing threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 67. Basher Mohsen Aouda (goldsmith), attack & threat, 2005, Baghdad
- 68. Anhar Nasir Lhd (goldsmith), threat, October 23rd 2004, Baghdad.
- 69. Ayad L. Hassan, threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 70. Azal Basim Abdul-Razak, threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 71. Aram Essam Khalid, threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 72. Usamah Ramzy Mubark, threat and shot at, 2004, Baghdad.
- 73. Akram Haleem Hindy, threat, 2004, Baghdad
- 74. Amal Aied Sajet, threatened to change his religion, 2004, Baghdad.
- 75. Adryan Oday Yousif, threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 76. Ayad Jabar Khalf, killing threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 77. Basim Abdul-Razaq kased, threat and attack on his house, 2004, Baghdad.
- 78. Dr. Adel Lazim Meshaal Al-Khamesi (university lecturer), attack & threat, , December 8th 2004, Al-Saidia, Baghdad.
- 79. Basher Abdul Mone'm, threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 80. Ihab Jabar Khalaf, threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 81. Taghreed L. Khalaf, threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 82. Hamed Mejbel Hamad, threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 83. Haleem Hindy Batty, killing threat which made Haleem leave the city, 2004, Basra province. Reported to Al-Basra Police.
- 84. Hazim Kamel Waste, threat which made Hazim leave the city, 2004, Babylon province.
- 85. Jalal Anees Amor, threat, November 1st 2004, Baghdad, his Brother Layeth killed at Dyala Bridge.
- 86. Jabber Shamkhy Jabber, threat, 2004, Baghdad.

- 87. Khalid Mejbel Jabar, threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 88. Khalid Saad Salman, threat paper passed to his house, 2004, Baghdad.
- 89. Yousif Sajet Sahar, threat, Baghdad.
- 90. Zaki Mubark Jabber, threat, Baghdad.
- 91. Zohair Raheem Dawood, killing threat, November 10th 2004, Baghdad, reported at Abu-Ghareeb Police Station.

- 92. Shaker Jawad Thamer, attack & threat, Baghdad.
- 93. Salah Bahjet Sharmoukh, threat, Baghdad.
- 94. Safaa Desher Zamil, threat, July 4th 2004, Baghdad, reported at Al-Bayaa Police Station.
- 95. Raed Zedan Manee, threat, Baghdad.
- 96. Rabha Abed Sahar, threat, Baghdad.
- 97. Raheem Zamil Rashed, threat, Baghdad.
- 98. Rafed Zedan Manee, threat, Baghdad.
- 99. Rafed Mjbel Hamd, threat, Baghdad.
- 100. Amjad Hamel Meshaal Al-Khamesi, threat, December 2004, Baghdad.
- 101. Dhyaa Mubark Amarah, threat, Baghdad.
- 102. Ghania Jabar Karlos, threat, Baghdad.
- 103. Hesham Nasir Majeed, threat, Baghdad.
- 104. Haytham Abdul Kareem Khalaf, threat, Baghdad.
- 105. Ramzy Faeeq Khrebit, threat, Baghdad.
- 106. Rafid L. Hasan, threat, Baghdad.
- 107. Ramzya Al-Sabri, threat, Baghdad.
- 108. Raed M. Jabar, threat, Baghdad
- 109. Raed Zahron Shalsh, threat, October 14th 2004, Baghdad, reported to Al-Bayaa Police Station.
- 110. Saad Abdul-Ameer Kmeer, killing threat, Baghdad.
- 111. Salman Saeed Abdul-Sada, Threat, Baghdad.
- 112. Sam Essam Khalid, threat, Baghdad.
- 113. Sawsan Talib Abdul-Sada, threat, Baghdad.
- 114. Wael Hazim Meshaal, threat, November 2005, Al-Mechanic district, Baghdad.
- 115. Faris Hamd Salman, threat, Baghdad.
- 116. Feras M. Fadhel, threat, Baghdad.
- 117. Salwan Jamil Hadher, threat and house was attacked by Al-Mahdy army, June 1st 2004, Baghdad.
- 118. Kahtan Amer, threat, September 28th 2005, Baghdad, reported at Al-Bayaa Police Station.
- 119. Kamer W. Kmeer, threat, Baghdad.
- 120. Kareem Enessi zajy, killing threat, attempt to kidnap and robbery, April 25th 2005, Baghdad.
- 121. Saadon Asaad Jabber, threat, Baghdad.
- 122. Souzan Aness Khamas, threat, October 25th 2004, Baghdad, reported at Al-Karkh Police Station.
- 123. Sundis Kerjy Yasin, threat, August 16th 2005, Baghdad.
- 124. Majeed Nasir Kaban, threat, 2005, Basra province, reported at Al-Zubeer Police Station.
- Mekhled Raheem Kashkol, robbery & threat, July 28th 2005, Baghdad, reported at Al-Bayaa Police Station.
- 126. Mahdy Sabah Helo, kidnapping threat and forced circumcision attempt, Baghdad.
- 127. Majed Jamil Zebalah, attack, Baghdad.
- 128. Mohmaed A. Kmar, kidnapping threat, Baghdad.
- 129. Mohammed Kabashy Shenan, kidnapping threat, Baghdad.
- 130. Mazin Abdul-Wahab, attacked and son arrested, Baghdad.
- 131. Abdul Satar Faris Al-Suhaily, kidnapping threat, April 7th 2005, Baghdad, reported at Al-Bayaa Police Station.
- 132. Abeer Jasim Saad, robbery & threat, Baghdad.
- 133. Moaaid Saeed Jouda, kidnapping threat, threat paper passed to his house, Baghdad.
- 134. Mejbil K. Sehiem, attack, Baghdad.
- 135. Mushtak Fakhry Khalaf, kidnapping threat, Baghdad.
- 136. Abady Neema, threat, Baghdad.
- 137. Abdul-Kareem Harbi Darweesh, threat, Baghdad.
- 138. Emad L. Hasan, threatened because he was a witness to killing incident, Baghdad.
- 139. Essam Khalid Khalef, threat, Baghdad.
- 140. Adel Hekmat, threat, Baghdad.

- 141. Abdul Khaleq Shareef No'man, threat, Baghdad.
- 142. Akeel Hayder Heliel, threat, Baghdad.
- 143. Abdul-Wahab Razoky Hamid, threat, Baghdad.
- 144. Abdul-Kareem Tawfeeq, threat, Baghdad.
- 145. Alaa Mubark Amarah, threat, Baghdad.
- 146. Oday Yousif Sajet, threat, Baghdad.
- 147. Laith Hady Jabek, threat & attack, Baghdad, reported at Al-Rafdyen Police station.
- 148. Laws Adwar Hasan, threat, Baghdad.
- 149. Lelo Al-Sabri, threat, Baghdad.
- 150. Nabeel Saad Sharad, threat, Baghdad.
- 151. Nasem Farhan Halob, threat, Baghdad.
- 152. Naghem Sami Flefel, threat, Baghdad.
- 153. Naser Shenan Helo, threat, Baghdad.
- 154. Nasser Mjbel Jabar, threat, Baghdad.
- 155. Wasfi Madlol Nooman, threat, Baghdad.
- 156. Wesam Majed Saeed, threat, Baghdad.
- Wasfi Jabar Jary, threat, August 25th 2005, Baghdad, reported at Al-Qudes Police station.
- 158. Waleed Kamel Taieh, threat, July 10th 2005, Balatt Al-Shohadaa, Baghdad.
- 159. Basem Waham Kmer, threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 160. Redsm Ibraheem Flefel, threat, Baghdad.
- 161. Fares Khalid Khalaf, threat & attack, Baghdad.
- 162. Jehad Bajay Sahar, threat & attack, Al-Megdadaih.
- 163. Luay J. Aouda, threat.
- 164. Reyadh J. Aouda, threat.
- 165. Majeed Naser Kaban, threat & attacked.
- 166. Hasan Raheem, shot at, Al-Swera, south Baghdad.
- 167. Mushtaq Kredy Rahema, threat to be killed or pay ransom or close his shop down.
- 168. Sundus Nasier Mshet, attempt to kidnap children because her husband refused to convert to Islam.
- 169. Afrah Sami Shamekh, threat either to pay ransom or will be kidnapped, 2004, Baghdad.
- 170. Essam Abdul-Lateef Jalel, kidnapping threat.
- 171. Adel Nasry Zarzor, threat to bomb his house.
- 172. Wesam Majed Saeed, threat.
- 173. Ban Malik Aziz (Miss), threat, 2004, Baghdad.
- 174. Ziad Saleem Hamady, threat, December 8th 2005.
- 175. Sabah Meedy Thamer, threat.
- 176. Nasir Shenan Helo, threat.
- 177. Abdul-Kareem Tawfeq, threat.
- 178. Feras Majid Fadhel, threat.
- 179. Akram Haleem Hendy, threat.
- 180. Luay Zahron Habeb, threat.
- 181. Saad Abdul-Raheem Kmaer, threat.
- 182. Usamah Hameed Zaki, threat and persecution.
- 183. Laith Zaki Mouzan Al-Khamesi, attempt to kill him by his front door, August 27th 2005.
- Ammar Raad Tarish Al-Saify, received threat, March 25th 2006 because he works for the Mandi and had to leave Iraq for safety.
- Nadiq Abudul wahed Rumman, received threats by text all around the school he worked in, April 30th 2006, Saydia, Baghdad.
- 186. All Goldsmiths in Hay Al-Ammel, Baghdad received a printed threat, May 12 2006; a copy of this threat is available.
- 187. Shekh Satar Jabar Hillo, the leader of Mandaeans handed a printed threat by hand in the Mandi, May 24th 2006.
- Many areas of Baghdad received threats on May 29th 2006 demanding that Mandaeans leave the country to the south of Iran; a copy of this threat is available.
- 189. Khalida Salim Galhoom (Mrs) with four young children living in al-Doora, Baghdad, threatened on May 30th 2006 to be killed if all of her children did not start praying in the Mosque. The family moved to hiding and then received help and left Iraq.

4.

190. Ghazi Shaty Al-Khamisi, received threats on June 19th 2006 together with his father and children after attacking their house, burning their two cars and wounding his father all because they are Mandaeans.

- 191. Husam Leaaby Thamir, shot in the leg in attempt to kill him, July 06 in Al-Sadir City, Baghdad
- 192. Sheikh Satar Jabar Hillo, the leader of Mandaeans and his brother attacked and threatened by gunmen at gunpoint in Baghdad on July 6th 2006. Tens of shots were fired at his car. They were detained for more than three hours and were assaulted personally and religiously. Then they took his mobile phone and his entire ID.
- 193. Ahmed Saeed Ghathban; threatened to leave work or be killed, as he used to work for the Iraqi police force. Mr Ghathban received threatening notes with two bullets on July 12 2006. Mr Ghathban has currently changed his residential address as he is scared for his own life as well as for his family.
- 194. Rafed Shaker Saleh Al-Khamesi, threat.
- 195. Suaood Aziz Jabbar Al-Suhaili, shot in the leg on August 3rd 2006.
- Family of Ghaiad Gadea, attacked by three gunmen on September 3rd 2006 and attempted kidnapping of Ghaiad's sister and her husband Salam (a religious leader).
- 197. A few Mandaeans' shops in Baghdad, Hay Al-Ammel were attacked on September 5th 2006 with no casualties reported.
- 198. Yass Haleem Shaalan Al-Muhanawi, injured with his wife Jehan Saliem Abed Wadi in Mahmoodia as a result of attack by mortar attack on October 10th 2006.
- 199. Basheer Khandeel Auofy Lafta Al-Zuhairi, injured with relative Salim Sabeeh Shafeek Lafta Al-Zuhairi in area called Suwaib, by mortar attack on October 17th 2006, Shrapnel still in both bodies.
- 200. Dakhil Muhalhil Thamir Al-Othmani, seriously injured by exploded car in Al-Huria district, Baghdad on October 18th 2006; he lost one leg, an eye and one ear.
- 201. Feras Saleem Mohy (goldsmith), looting his money and his jewellery, Baghdad.
- 202. Salam Sabri, Burglary.
- 203. Emad Raheem, threatened and car stolen on July 13th 2004.
- 204. Talib Kredy Rahma, his shop burgled, taking all contents.
- 205. Kareem Mal Allah, burglary.
- 206. Adam Al-Shiekh Khalaf, seizing his house, shooting at and stole his car, money and jewellery.
- 207. Meklaf Zahrawy, looting attempt and shot at by gang.
- 208. Hameed Zaki Silan (religious man), burglary, then forced to leave his house which was later seized while he was in Jordan.
- 209. Abed Wahwah Al-Nashee (retired teacher), threatened and house attacked with hand bomb which damaged front of the house in Baghdad, so he fled to Jordan.
- 210. Leaby Hasan Meejel, attacked his house, May 8th 2004, Baghdad. They invaded his house once again in Al-Faloja on December 28th 2004 so he was forced to escape from Iraq.
- 211. Abdul-Karim L. Hasan (goldsmith) attacked his house, May 8th 2004, Baghdad. The attackers threatened and beat his mother.
- 212. Raed L. Hasan, (goldsmith); his house was attacked on May 8th 2004 in Baghdad. The attackers threatened and beat his mother.
- 213. Nadheer Khather, his house was seized.
- 214. Abdul-Kareem Darwesh, burglary victim (money and jewellery) April 3rd 2004.
- 215. Tahsen Mezher Jebara, goldsmith, Baghdad, invaded his house and stole his car on June 2nd2004.
- 216. Jabar Aouda Sharif, goldsmith, Basra, attacked and stole his shop on June 29th 2002.
- 217. Saeed Ghareb Sahi, invaded his house and burnt his car.
- 218. Adel Haider Shibeeb (goldsmith), looting of all content of his shop by gunmen wearing police uniform on May 27th 2006, Baladroose.
- 219. Ziad Saleem Hamady (goldsmith), looted his jewellery and threatened, June 25th 2005, Basra province
- 220. Dr. Ziad Faraj Adam (dentist), Burning and destruction of all contents of clinic which range from medical equipment and furniture as well as other contents, July 2nd 2006, Al-Daura, Bankdad
- 221. Kamal Abd Wahwah, his car, money and jewellery was stolen and he was beaten, Baghdad
- Nawras A. Habib (Miss) injured as a result of attack to their house, October 13th 2006, Al-Rafedaen district, Baghdad
- 223. Mandaean's families received a threat on January 29th 2007 in Suwaira south of Baghdad

- 224. Ramzi Adday Al-Zuhairy's family received many threats by phone to arrange his funeral after his assassination on February 5th 2007.
- Dr. Adnan Ni'ma Hassoon Al-nashi family received a threat in Ba'aquba province in a form of warning letter, they did not take it seriously then they were attacked by gunmen, but managed to escape their house leaving for the north of Iraq
 - Dr. Adnan is a vet; two of his sons are pharmacists, one a teacher, another an agricultural engineer and a disabled son, three of them married with children, the family consists of:

Dr. Adnan Ni'ma Hassoon al-Nashi

Mrs. Ameera Abdul-razzaq Zamil Al-Jabiry

Ms. Fathila Ni'ma Hassoon Al-Nashi

Mr. Haithem Adnan Al-Nashi

Mrs.Shahad Fa'aiz Disher Zamil Al-Jabiry

Master Adam (Haithem son)

Mr. Irfan Adnan Al-Nashi

Mrs Zaghareed Khairy Abdul-Razzaq Zamil Al-Jabur

Master Yousuf (Irfan's son)

Mr. Mushtaq Adnan Al-Nashi

Mrs. Suha Fa'aiz Disher Zamil Al-Jabiry

Miss Rawan (Mushtaq's daughter)

Mr. Muhannad Adnan Al-Nashi

Mr. Usama Adnan Al-Nashi

- 230. Mukalad K. Saeed threatened on April 10th 2007 in his residence in Baghdad to convert to Islam or leave the country. Then on April 20th he was arrested and taken to Husainea (place of Islamic worship) where he was assaulted and beaten hard for not having taken the threat seriously and was told to obey their demands or bear the consequences.
- After the killing of Yahya Abadi Al-Uthmani on May 4th 2007 in Nasiriya province and while his family and the Mandaean's community were busy and wailing at the funeral they received a letter of threat on May 12 2007 giving them 72 hours to leave the city or else.
- A few Mandaean families received threats in Al-Doora, Baghdad and had to evict their houses:

 Jameel Tawfeek
- 233. Saad Shakheir
- 234. Saad Jameel
- 235. Tawfeek Saad
- 236. Jaleel Zahroon
- 237. Najat Azeez Shadhar (Miss) lives in Baghdad; received a threat in a form of warning letter on September 1st 2007 to convert to Islam within a week or face serious consequences; then noticed that she was followed when going to work. The warning was passed to her again by a form of reminder message by client using the bank where she works. She left the house for Syria.
- 238. Feras Tarik Barakat Roomi received a threat to leave his job as engineer for the Electricity Board

Rape

Names will be held for confidentiality. These cases represent the cases that were reported to us. Lots of other cases go unreported. Most women interviewed by UNHCR who were kidnapped had also been raped and otherwise ill-treated by their captors.

- 1. SH. H. N. H, 20 yrs old, university student, 2004, Baghdad, left Iraq
- 2. S.H.L, housewife, April 7th 2005, Baghdad, left Iraq
- 3. S. S.S. 38 yrs old, housewife, July 26th 2005, Baghdad, left Iraq
- 4. F.F.N 40 yrs old, housewife, December 8th 2004, Baghdad, left Iraq
- 5. R.M.E 28 yrs old worker in Parker Shop, April 2005, Baghdad, left Iraq
- 6. A.F.N, housewife, attacked & raped June 21st 2005, Baghdad, left Iraq
- 7. H.GH. N. 42 yrs old, housewife, raped & kidnapped on June 20th 2004, Baghdad, left Iraq
- 8. E.B.AA., kidnapped & raped on December 25th 2004, Baghdad, reported to Al-Yarmouk Police Station. Released after paying ransom of \$10000.00
- 9. DH.E.H 34 yrs old housewife, raped & kidnapped on September 4th 2005, Baghdad, left Iraq
- 10. D.F. a pregnant housewife kidnapped & raped on September 18th 2005, Baghdad, reported to Al-Bayaa Police Station. Released after paying ransom in Sowerah
- 11. S. A. A. survived an attempt of rape.

Conversion to Islam by Force

- 1. Shroq Farhan Katee, Al-Falluja beside her sons: Sanaa Tahseen, Salwan Tahseen & Hanin Tahseen
- 2. Feryal Farhan Katee, Al-Falluja beside her sons and daughter
- 3. Senan Yasin, Al-Falluja beside his sons and daughter
- 4. Sarah Sabeh Sabri, Al-Falluja
- 5. Salah Najy Shather, Baghdad
- 6. Naseema Aoda, Baghdad
- 7. Fouad Farhan, Al-Falluja
- 8. Adel Farhan, Al-Falluja
- 9. Ashraf Farhan Katee, Al-Falluja
- 10. Hasan Fazwzy, Al-Falluja
- 11. Senan Hasan, Al-Falluja
- 12. Sawsan Hasan, Al-Falluja
- 13. Falah Sabri, Al-Falluja
- 14. Ikhlas Farhan, Al-Falluja
- 15. Salah Sabri, Al-Falluja
- 16. Asaad Sabri, Al-Falluja
- 17. Yezen Sabri, Al-Falluja
- 18. Satota Fenjan, Al-Falluja
- 19. Nedhal Ashor, Al-Falluja
- 20. May Ashor, Al-Falluja, beside her daughters Noor, Mony & Meshmash
- 21. Hayat Zamil Sadeq, Baghdad
- 22. Nawal Zaki Alwan, Baghdad
- 23. Suha Shnawa edan, Baghdad
- 24. Nuha Shnawa edan, Baghdad
- 25. Maha Shnawa edan, Baghdad
- 26. Abd alghani Mankhi Flifl, Amman
- 27. Suaad Nori Mthni, Amman
- 28. 35 families were forced to convert to Islam in Al-Falluja. Had the Mandaeans not complied they would have been forced out of Al-Falluja, leaving their children and belongings behind.
- 29. (Name removed for safety) received threats to convert to Islam or be harmed by her Muslim acquaintances.
- 30. Members of (name removed for safety) family and others who had witnessed his death were threatened with their own deaths if they did not convert to Islam.

31. (Name removed for safety) was threatened to convert to Islam or be kidnapped and then he was kidnapped on March 20th 2005. His whereabouts are still unknown up to the preparation of this report.

θ

- 32. (Name removed for safety) was threatened to be killed along with her daughter (7 yrs) if she did not convert to Islam. This action forced the woman to escape with her daughter out of the area. This happened in Sader City, and Sector 31, Baghdad.
- 33. A letter signed by The Islamic Mujahideen Group and distributed to Mandaean houses and businesses in March 2005, demanded that all Mandaeans should either convert to Islam, leave the country or be killed by the sword.

Forceful Displacement from Al-Ramady Area to Syria

- 1. Jouda Zeghier Khafour, Goldsmith
- 2. Kareem Jouda Zeghier Khafor Al-Khamesi
- 3. Fares Jouda Zeghier Khafor Al-Khamesi
- 4. Hamed Jouda Zegier Khafour Al-Khamesi
- 5. Sami Naeem Ghafel Al-Khamesi, a Goldsmith
- 6. Essam Sami Naeem Ghafel Al-Khamesi
- 7. Husam Sami Naeem Ghafil Al-Khamesi
- 8. Hesham Sami Naeem Ghafil Al-Khamesi
- 9. Wesam Sami Naeem Ghafel Al-Khamesi
- 10. Zeida Khalid Mohy Al-Khamesi, a Goldsmith
- 11. Khaldon Zeiad Khalid Mohy Al-Khamesi
- 12. Sarmad Zeiad Khalid Mohy Al-Khamesi
- 13. Anwar Zeiad Khalid Mohy Al-Khamesi
- 14. Raheem Flefel Fahad Al-Kuhily, Goldsmith
- 15. Fouad Raheem Flefel Fahad Al-Kuhily
- 16. Zeiad Raheem Flefl Fahad Al-Kuhily
- 17. Nehad Raheem Flefl Fahad Al-Kuhily
- 18. Sabah Abbas Jabber Al-Khamesi
- 19. Najy Abbas Jabber Al-Khamesi, a Goldsmith
- 20. Ather Abbas Jabber Al-Khamesi
- 21. Asaad Aziz Dher Al-Msodany
- 22. Salman Aziz Dher Al-Msodnay
- 23. Saleem Hajol Saeed Al-Chuhaily, a Goldsmith
- 24. Luay Saleem Hajol Saeed Al-Chuhaily
- 25. Thaer Jaaz Mhaws Al-Chuhaily
- 26. Alla Atee Shabeb Al-Khamesi
- 27. Salah Atee Shabeb Al-Khamesi
- 28. Mohand Wessam Sami Naeem Al-Khamesi

Forceful Displacement from Al-Ramady Area to Jordan

- 1. Moneem Salih Mohy Kazar Al-Khamesi, Goldsmith
- 2. Nezar Moneem Salih Mohy Kazar Al-Khamesi
- 3. Shaker Salih Mohy Kazar Al-Khamesi, Goldsmith
- 4. Mahmoud Shaker Salih Mohy Kazar Al-Khamesi
- 5. Laith Shaker Salih Mohy Kazar Al-Khamesi
- 6. Muneer Salih Mohy Kazar Al-Khamesi
- 7. Atheer Salih Mohy Kazar Al-Khamesi
- 8. Ahmad Saeed Salih Mohy Kazar Al-Khamesi
- 9. Luay Salih Mohy Kazar Al-Khamesi
- 10. Thaer Tareq Khalid Mohy Al-Khamesi
- 11. Mahir Tareq Khalid Mohy Al-Khamesi
- 12. Khalid Akram Khalid Mohy Al-Khamesi
- 13. Karm Akram Khalid Mohy Al-Khamesi

Other Incidents

- 1. Muthana Dahyef Shaghi received threats to convert to Islam on January 05, then survived an assassination attempt together with his brother Dr. Mua'taz, resulting in injury. Dr. Mua'taz Dahyef Shaghi granted asylum to Australia and Muthana left to Syria. On April 06 after returning to Iraq found out their house has been repossessed and looted, then wife Susan Aziz Sayhood, a baby son and mother Rabeeaa Gea'as kidnapped assaulted and beaten up which led to the death of the baby. Family left for Syria again on April 22nd 2006.
- 2. Hayfaa Jabbar (Miss) survived a kidnapping attempt because she was not wearing the Hijab, managed to escape, but was shot in the head by a member of a kidnapping military, which led to losing her right eye and losing eyesight to left eye, January 11th 2007.
- 3. Sheikh Haytham Saleem Shaher survived an assassination attempt because he was a religious leader by attacking and destroying his house, January 26th 2007, Saidiya, Baghdad
- 4. Moneer & Samir Thabet abid ordered to pay religious tax (Jizya) on February 1st 2007, then they were ordered to pay another 1.5 Million ID on February 10th 2007. Then after a few days they were ordered to pay a further 1.0 Million ID (Iraqi Dinar).
- 5. Aziz Khassaf Al-Mandawi was injured in an explosion on February 4th 2007 in Bayaa district, Baghdad.
- 6. Zaki Abdul Raheem (born 06/07/1930), together with his wife Haseeba Aziz, received a visit by eight masked militants on March 4th 2007 at their house in Al-Doora district, Baghdad, who ordered them to leave their house. When Zeki asked why, they pointed a machine gun at his head saying you have one hour only to vacate the house because you are from the infidels and God asked to kill you. The family left their house with all their belongings and went to live with relatives in Al-Ealam district. After a few months, the family received another threat from a militant called Ansar Al-Islam so they decided to leave for Syria. Zaki's brother Nasha't was killed on August 13th 2003 in Baghdad.
- 7. Munther Abid Rabba injured in car explosion in Al-Mutanabi Street Baghdad on March 2007.
- 8. Jehad Bakkal Khangar injured by mortar attack on his flat on March 18th 2007 in Al-Yarmook district, Baghdad.
- 9. The family of the late Riyadh Muhatam Al-Sheigh Yahya suffered damages to their house by mortar attack, March 28th 2007, Al-Mowasalat district, Baghdad.
- 10. Kareem Nagi Maruood's family was forced to leave and abandon their house on April 3rd 2007 in Al-Doora district, Baghdad, and moved to another area for safety.
- 11. Mokhalad Kabll Saeed Al-Salihy was threatened on April 10th 2007 in his residence in Baghdad to convert to Islam or leave the country. Then on April 20th he was arrested by militants and taken to Husainea (place of Islamic worship) where he was assaulted and beaten hard for not having taken the threat seriously, and was told to obey their demands or bear the consequences.
- 12. Adnan Musa Shiltagh suffered head injures and was taken to hospital due to a car explosion in Al-Karrada district Baghdad on April 18th 2007 further to much damage to his shop.
- 13. Emad Shenshal Zagy suffered a gun shot injury and a lot of damage to his car by the Mandi in Qadisiya district, April 21st 2007, Baghdad.
- Daylona Auoda Rumaidh (Mrs) was injured in two car explosions on April 22nd 2007 in Al-Ea'lam district, Baghdad.
- Dr. Ibrahim Khamas Duma's house and annex has been occupied by force on April 25th 2007 in Al-Khadraa district, Baghdad and forced to sign a tenancy agreement under gun threat after kidnapping his son-in-law Maged Sabri Bahidh.

 The family evacuated from their house and told by gunmen to announce that they are leaving the country to live abroad and threatened that they would be killed if they tell anybody about their ordeal. The family had to leave all furniture and belongings behind.
- 16. Naba'a Ziyad Zaki a child born 2001 and sister Saba'a born 2002 both injured by mortar attack, April 26th 2007, Harithiya district, Baghdad.
- 17. Wisam Sami suffered a mortar attack on his residence in April 2007 in Al-Karrada, Baghdad.
- 18. Yahya Jalal Aziz Khassaf, a child, was shot in the hand, May 1st 2007, Al-Saidia district, Baghdad.
- 19. Rasheed Noori Jaber house was burned by two mortar attacks on May 1st 2007 causing severe damage making the house unfit and unsafe to live in, which forced the family to move out.
- 20. Atshan Khashan was injured by a car explosion on May 22nd 2007 in Al-Aamel district, Baghdad.
- 21. Ghassan Ma'yoof was shot and injured on May 25th 2007 in Basra province.

Rami Jamal Mutar survived a kidnapping attempt on June 5th 2007 by militants in Al-Saidia, 22.

- Karim Abdullah Salman Musudni was shot in the mouth on June 11th 2007 in Al-Aalmel district, 23. Baghdad.
- The residence of Sheikh Haitham Saleem Shahir was attacked by gunmen at 2:00 pm June 2nd 24. 2007, exploding the main door, looting contents and belongings and stealing his car.
- The Mandaeans' place of worship (Mandi) in Meysan province has been attacked by shotgun 25. while carrying out Baptism ceremony on Sunday July 15th 2007 in which Nedham Krady was injured together with Saif Lateef Salih.
- Kamil Aufy Mashkoor and six members of his family have been evicted by force from their 26. home in Al-Doora district, Baghdad.
- 27. Emad Matrood Sareea and family have been evicted from their home in Al-Doora district, Baghdad.
- 28. Saeed Gahreeb Saahi and family have been evicted by force from their home in Al-Doora district, Baghdad beside two shops; one is car mechanics and the other is vehicles accessories.
- 29. Mortar landed on the residence of Faheem Salim Sarhan Al- Khamisi, Al-Bayaa district,
- 30. Two Mandaeans' houses have been occupied by force in Al-Aameria, Baghdad. Many historic religious books were confiscated, one of which was an original copy of the Kinsa, the Mandaeans holy book.
- Ziad Jabbar Al-Sabti, a well known figure in Basra, was attacked, robbed, assaulted and beaten 31. up while he was going to work in January 2008.
- Mu'taz Sharqi Uthman Badi was injured in Basra on March 2008. His family couldn't take him 32. to hospital because of security circumstances.
- 33. Najat Abid Gate'a received a threat in March 2008 in Baghdad so she left with her orphan children and her brother, together with his family to her parents' house in Kut.
- 34. Sami Suwadi Sunaiher al-Zuhairy was shot in the left leg in Al-Jewader district, Baghdad on March 26th 2008.
- Family of Abid Gate'a Muhana received a threat to leave their house in Kut. 35.
- Moayad Abid Gate'a, born 1965, was injured and survived a mortar attack to parents' house in 36. Kut on March 29th 2008. His wife Enas and eight other members of the family died in the attack.
- Fareed Abid Al- Emam was shot in the stomach on April 6th 2008 in Al-Sader district, Baghdad. 37.
- Salah Khalaf Mutar Al-Zuhairy house had a rocket attack in Jamela district, Baghdad in April 38.
- 39. Abid Sahan Zghair was shot three times on April 14th 2008 in Abo-Disheer, Baghdad on his way home by the American troops, had surgery to remove two, third still in right shoulder
- Hamdia Matar Burhan Hamad (Mrs) was shot in the left hand on April 14th 2008 in Jameela 40. district, Baghdad.
- Adel Naeem Salih Jabur was shot in the right foot on April 15th 2008 in Al-Sader district, 41. Baghdad. He had surgery to remove the bullet.
- Awda Jery Tamool had a shrapnel wound when the house opposite was bombed on April 30th 42. 2008 in Al-Sader district, Baghdad.
- Salah Khalaf's house suffered an air missile attack on April 13th 2008 in Al-Sader district, 43. Baghdad. Nobody was home at the time of the incident.
- 44. Ekhlas Shaker Jowher (Mrs) was shot in the stomach in Al-Shurta district, Baghdad and had to go through major surgery in Al-Yarmook hospital.
- Lara, daughter to Saeed Ghareeb Al-Khafagi, escaped a kidnapping attempt on May 13th 2008 in 45. Al-Saidia, Baghdad, after her father defended her, which made the kidnappers attack him. They beat him hard causing three broken bones to his hand.
- Sabah Kamil Muhyee suffered a military attack on June 19th 2008 in Al-Hurria district, Baghdad 46. causing injuries to tummy, broken hand and shrapnel to the head. Sabah is a brother to Husham killed in September 07 and Cousin to Aatif Jameel Muhyee killed in August 2007 (refer to MHRG report issued March 2008).
- Waleed Ghazi Shaaty survived an assassination attempt on August 6th 2008 by militants in Al-47. Sader district, Baghdad causing his skull to fracture, temporary loss of memory and internal
- 48. Threats were sent to Mandaean families for taking part in a joint British American film made in Jordan, talking about the military battle of Haditha.

- θ
- 1. Nassim B. Abdul Kareem
- 2. Aehem B. Abdul Kareem
- 3. Jabbar Kokaz Badr
- 4. Khadeja K. Laoas
- 5. Fryal L. Mkalf
- 6. Talal B. Asie

One of the Mandaeans already survived an assassination attempt involving a speeding car in Jordan.

- 49. Talib Hammadi Ayesh Al-Khamisi was injured on October 12 2008 by explosion in Al-Bayaa district, Baghdad while shopping.
- 50. The late Mr. Haleem Shathur's family were forced to evacuate their house on October 15th 2008 at Al- Ameen district, Baghdad after militants attacked their house at 4:00 am, forcing them to evacuate and not allowing them to take any personnel documents or belongings, and set the house on fire. The family consists of 70 yrs old Mum Aneesa J. Arar and her daughter and son.
- 51. Asa'd Hani and Feras Shaker Ghlaem survived an assassination attempt on April 19th 2009 after attack using guns with silencers in Al-Toobchy district, Baghdad in which three other Mandaeans were killed.
- 52. On April 23rd 2009 two explosives detonated at the front of the house of victim Haytham Hameed Al-Badri who was killed on April 19th 2009 together with his son (refer to list of killed Mandaeans).
- 53. Mu'een Jasim survived an assassination attempt on May 7th 2009 after receiving a few gunshots; he was taken to Al-Yarmook hospital in a critical condition
- 54. Sarmad Fouad Nasir and Feras Sallom Sheikh Farag were injured in a car explosion on October 25th 2009 in Baghdad
 Residents of Wajdi; Shaheen Bedan, Ghasan Yousif Naseem and Nadhum Ghadeer Hajem were damaged by the same explosion.
- 55. Ammar Fadhil was injured by an explosion on June 23rd 2011 in Al-Shurta district of Baghdad andevacuated to hospital for treatment.

Unconfirmed Atrocities

The following atrocities were not confirmed as a hate crime, but we are still looking for evidence and demand investigation.

- 1. Salama Hamdi Salih (Mrs) wife to Atshan Khashan killed by car explosion on May 22nd 2007 in Al-Aamel district, Baghdad.
- 2. Three Mandaean females kidnapped on January 20th 2008 by force using weapons in public place with their families around and forcing them to marry Muslim men to convert them.
- 3. Ra'ad Farhan Shenan killed on March 19th 2008 after nine months of captivity.
- 4. Sabria Wadi Sahi died on April 1st 2008 in hospital in unknown circumstances

Photo evidence of some of the victims

Al-Halali Raad Matar Falih Al-Othmani, killed on 10-10-2006, Al-Suwara, South of Baghdad, killed because he was practising to be a religious leader.





Mr Khalid Akram Muhi 30 yrs, kidnapped, tortured, given three days to announce his conversion to Islam or leave the country.



Dr Nisreen Abdul-lateef, dentist, Married with two kids. Attacked on August 8th 2006 by masked gunmen in her clinic, shouting slogans against the infidels. Kicked and beaten then put to the floor to be slaughtered. She was saved by her patients.





Mr Khayri Abdul-Sattar, Jeweller, killed in his shop after he got two letters of threats to leave the area or convert. Killed on April 2^{nd} 2005.



53

Mr Zamil Al-Zuhairi, 56 yrs Jeweller. Kidnapped May 8^{th} 2005, tortured, refused to change religion. He paid ransom. Now suffers sever psychological trauma and living in Syria.







Salwan Salam, Child 10 yrs old. In Dyala area, kidnapped, beaten then burned on different areas of his body. Family paid ransom and left Iraq.



Rwan Mukdad Kareem Al-Khamisi, 5 yrs old kidnapped March 13th 2004, a piece of her ear was sent to the parents to pay ransom and leave the area. Parents paid \$10,000.00 and left Iraq.



Aseel Dhafer 12 yrs Kidnapped on September 28 2004. Kiddnapped, tortured. The kidnappers asked the parents to convert, pay ransom and leave the country. Family paid \$15000.00 and left Iraq.







Miss Hifa Jabar Mijman

She lost one eye in an attack by thugs. She was attacked because she did not put on a hijab and refused to obey their orders.



Mr Imad Aziz Khisaf Torture victim was kidnapped, tortured and paid ransom before he could escape to Syria.





Mrs Ansam Mubarak Muhalhel kidnapped together with her 11 yrs old son Saeed Mazin Saeed.







55

Mr Farqad Faiq Authman and Mr. Muhand Qasim Abdul-Razzaq (both in their twenties), were massacred on September 19th 2009 by four masked gun men using silenced guns and knives after returning to Iraq from Syria.







Arshad Abid Kashmar, 25 years old shot dead on May 25th 2010 in Al Bayaa district, Baghdad together with his brother Ahmed



Ahmed Abid Kashmar, 21 years old shot twice on May 25th 2010 in Al Bayaa district, Baghdad and taken in intensive care at Al Yarmook hospital, but died on June 4th



Α

REFERENCES

Α

Amnesty International (2009, March). Trapped by Violence: Women in Iraq. Retrieved from: http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/MDE14/005/2009/en/e6cda898-fa16-4944-af74-f3efc0cf6a4d/mde140052009en.pdf

Amnesty International (2010, Apr.). Iraq Civilians Under Fire. Retrieved from: http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/MDE14/002/2010/en/c9dc5d8d-95fa-46e4-8671-cd9b99d0378c/mde140022010en.pdf

Amnesty International (2011). Human Rights in Republic of Iraq. Retrieved from: http://www.amnesty.org/en/region/iraq/report-2009

Bacon, K.H. and Younes, K. (2009, Mar. 31). The Return and Resettlement of Displaced Iraqis. Refugees International. Retrieved from: http://www.refugeesinternational.org/policy/testimony/return-and-resettlement-displaced-iraqis.

Bacon, K. and Younes, K. (2009, Apr. 7). Iraq: preventing the point of no return. Refugees International. Retrieved from: http://www.refugeesinternational.org/sites/default/files/Iraq%20-%20Preventing%20the%20Point%20of%20No%20Return.pdf

Bowcott, O. (2010, Nov. 5). European court demands halt to forcible return of Iraqi asylum seekers. The Guardian. Retrieved from: www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/nov/05/strasbourg-forcible-returns-iraqi-asylum

Buckley, J.J. (1999). Glimpses of Life: Yahia Bihram Mandaean Priest. History of Religions. p. 32 - 49

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. (2003). International Religious Freedom Report

Caux, H. (2011, Jan). UNHCR dismayed at forced repatriation of Iraqis; reports increase in flight of Iraqi Christians. Retrieved from: http://www.unhcr.org.uk/resources/monthly-updates/january-2011/iraq.html

Council of the European Union (2008, Nov. 20). Report on the EU Fact finding mission to Jordan and Syria on resettlement of refugees from Iraq. Retrieved from: http://www.statewatch.org/news/2011/jan/eu-council-com-report-on-iraq-08.pdf

Cordesman, A.H., Mausner, A. and Derby, E. (2010, Jun.) Iraq and the United States: Creating a Strategic Partnership. *Center for Strategic and International Studies*. Retrieved from: http://csis.org/files/publication/100622 Cordesman IraqUSStrategicPartner WEB.pdf

Danish Immigration Service (2010, Apr.). Security and Human Rights in South/Central Iraq: Report from Danish Immigration Service's fact-finding mission to Amman, Jordan and Baghdad, Iraq. Retrieved from: http://www.nyidanmark.dk/NR/rdonlyres/7F24EA1B-1DC7-48AE-81C4-C097ADAB34FD/0/Rapport_Security_and_HR_in_South_Central_Iraq.pdf

De Morgan, J. Mission Scientifique en Perse. Vol. $5\,$

Doha, Q. (2009, Nov. 18-19). Resolving Iraqi Displacement: Humanitarian and development Perspectives. *The Brookings Institution*. Retrieved from: http://www.humansecuritygateway.com/documents/BROOKINGS ResolvingIraqiDisplacement.pdf

Drower, E.S. Mandaeans of Iraq and Iran. p. 56 – 57

Drower, E.S. (1960). The Thousand and Twelve Questions (Alf Trisar Suialia), edited in transliteration and translation by E.S. Drower *Akademie Verlag* Berlin, p. 1-2

Elkins, D. (2011, Feb 21.). Iraq: Eight Years of Abuses and Impunity. *Global Issues*. Retrieved from: http://www.globalissues.org/news/2011/02/21/8600

European Parliament. (2011, Mar. 4). Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Ashton on behalf of the Commission. Retrieved from: www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getAllAnswers.do?reference=E-2010-011116&language=EN

Gaer, F.D. (2009, May). Annual Report of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom. Retrieved from: http://www.uscirf.gov/images/AR2009/final%20ar2009%20with%20cover.pdf

Hamidi, M. Stories from a life of Ameer. p. 161

HPG Policy Brief 30. (2008, March). Humanitarian action in Iraq: putting the pieces together. Retrieved from: http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/download/1089.pdf

Human Rights First (2010, Dec.).

Living in Limbo: Iraqi Refugees and U.S. Resettlement. Retrieved from: www.humanrightsfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/Living-in-Limbo-final.pdf

Human Rights First (2011, March). Living in Limbo: Iraqi Refugees and U.S. Resettlement Retrieved from: http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/Living-in-Limbo-Fact-Sheet.pdf

Human Rights Watch. (2011, Feb. 2). At a Crossroads: Human Rights in Iraq Eight Years after the US-Led Invasion. Retrieved from: www.hrw.org/en/node/95605/section/

θ

Human Rights Watch. (2010). Iraq At a Crossroads: Human Rights in Iraq Eight Years After the US-Led Invasion. Retrieved from: www.hrw.org/en/news/2011/02/21/iraq-vulnerable-citizens-risk http://www.hrw.org/en/node/95605/section/7

Human Rights Watch (2011, Feb. 21). Iraq: Vulnerable Citizens at Risk. Retrieved from:

International Rescue Commission. (2008). Five Years Later, a Hidden Crisis. Report of the IRC Commission on Iraqi Refugees. Retrieved from: http://www.humansecuritygateway.com/documents/IRC_Iraq_fiveyearslater.pdf

IWPR. (2010, Feb. 26). Iraqis Fear Renewed Sectarian Violence. Retrieved from: http://iwpr.net/report-news/iraqis-fear-renewed-sectarian-violence

Ketz, S. (2010, Jul. 20). Iraq's last Sabeans take sad New Year dip in Tigris. *Middle East Online*. Retrieved from: www.middle-east-online.com/english/?id=40128

Lamani, M. (2009, Jan.). CIGI Special Report: Minorities in Iraq: The Other Victims. Retrieved from: http://www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/Minorities%20in%20Iraq%20final.pdf

Mandaean Associations Union. (2002). Persecution of Mandaeans in Iraq. Retrieved from: http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/EN_HMRG_002.htm

Mandaean Associations Union. (2004). The Mandaean Human Rights In Iraq Report. Retrieved from: http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/EN_HMRG_001.htm

Mandaean Associations Union. (2006, Apr.) The Mandaean Crisis in Iraq. Retrieved from: http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/EN_HMRG_011.html

Mandaean Associations Union (2009). Stop the Killing of Mandaeans in Iraq. Retrieved from: http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/EN_HMRG_027.html

Mandaean Associations Union (2009). For how long will the international community watch before it acts to stop the genocide of Mandaeans in Iraq? Retrieved from: http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/EN_HMRG_029.html

Mandaean Associations Union (n.d.). Mandaean Killing Goes on While the Iraqi Government Looks Away. Retrieved from: http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/EN_HMRG_028.html

Mandaean Human Rights Group. (2008, March). Mandaean Human Rights Annual Report. Retrieved from: http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/Mandaean_Human_Rights_Annual_report_March%20_2008.pdf

Mandaean Human Rights Group (2007, Jan.). Sabian Mandaeans in Iraq Face Annihilation. Retrieved from: http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/Sabian_Mandaeans in \$\times 201raq Face Annihilation 2007 MHRG report.pdf

Mandaean Society of America. (2005, March). The Sabian Mandaeans Face a Critical Moment in their History. Retrieved from: http://mandaeanunion.org/HMRG/HR_report_2005.pdf

Measuring Stability and Security in Iraq. (2009, June). Report to Congress in accordance with the Department of Defense Supplemental Appropriations Act 2008. Retrieved from: http://www.defenselink.mil/pubs/pdfs/9010_Report_to_CongressJul09.pdf

 $\label{lem:minority-refugees-from-in-r$

 $Minority\ Rights\ Group\ International\ (2010,\ Jun.\ 10).\ Still\ Targeted:\ Continued\ Persecution\ of\ Iraq's\ Minorities.\ Retrieved\ from: \\ \underline{http://www.minorityrights.org/10042/reports/still-targeted-continued-persecution-of-iraqs-minorities.html}$

Minority Rights Group International (2011, Feb. 23). Still Targeted: Continued Persecution of Iraq's Minorities (Arabic edition). Retrieved from: http://www.minorityrights.org/10534/reports/still-targeted-continued-persecution-of-iraqs-minorities-arabic-edition.html

Nashi, S. and Bolender, J. (2009, Apr. 24). The Plight of Iraq's Mandaeans and Honderich's Principle of Humanity. *Politics*, Vol. 28, Iss 2. Retrieved from: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1467-9256.2009.01344.x/abstract

Nickerson, A., Bryant, R.A., Brooks, R. Steel, Z., and Silove, D. (2009). Fear of Cultural Extinction and Psychopathology Among Mandaean Refugees: An Exploratory Path Analysis. *CNS Neuroscience & Therapeutics*. Retrieved from: http://www.brown.uk.com/anxiety/nickerson.pdf

O'Donnell, K. and Newland, K. (2008). The Iraqi Refugee Crisis: The Need for Action. *Migration Policy Institute*. Retrieved from: http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/MPI-The_Iraqi Refugee Crisis: The Need for Action 011808.pdf

Refugee Council of Australia (2011, March). Australia's Refugee and Humanitarian Program 2011-12. Retrieved from: http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/docs/resources/2011-12_IntakeSub.pdf

Refugee Documentation Centre (Ireland). (2009, Dec. 16). Reports of extortion of businesses (and violence against their owners) in Baghdad by radical groups/extremists. Reports on ineffective police protection from such threats. Retrieved from: http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/pdfid/4b8fcb19d.pdf

Refugees International (2010, Sep. 1). Refugees International Statement: President Obama Dodges Long Term Responsibility to Refugees in Historic Speech. Retrieved from: www.refugeesinternational.org/press-room/press-release/refugees-international-statement-president-obama-dodges-long-term-responsibility

 $Security Council. \ (2010, Dec.\ 15). \ 6450th\ meeting.\ Retrieved\ from: \ \underline{http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/\%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9\%7D/Iraq\%20SPV\%206450.pdf}$

Shea, N. (2009, Jan 8). The Contest of Ideas with Radical Islam. Hudson Institute. www.hudson.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=publication_details&id=5983

Shea, N. (2010, Jul. 13). Statement before the Congressional International Religious Freedom Caucus and Religious Minorities int eh Middle East Caucus: "Iraq's Vulnerable Religious Minorities." Retrieved from: http://www.hudson.org/files/publications/STATEMENT%200F%20NINA%20SHEA.pdf

Shea, N. (2011, Jan. 20). U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) Testimony before the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission U.S. House of Representatives Christian Minorities Under Attack: Iraq and Egypt. Retrieved from: http://www.hudson.org/files/publications/Nina%20Shea%20Testimony%2012011.pdf

Sly, L. (2008, Nov. 16). This is one of the world's oldest religions, and it is going to die.' *Chicago Tribune*. http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2008-11-16/news/0811160073_1_sect-iraqi-kurdistan-sunni-nor-shiite/4

S. Res. 322 (2009). Expressing the sense of the Senate on religious minorities in Iraq. Retrieved from: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:sr322ats.txt.pdf

UNHCR. (2008, Jan. 8). UNHCR seeks US\$261 million for Iraqi refugee programmes in 2008. Retrieved from: http://www.unhcr.org/news/NEWS/478395d94.html

UN High Commissioner for Refugees. (2009, Apr.). UNHCR Eligibility Guidelines for Assessing the International Protection Needs of Iraqi Asylum-Seekers. Retrieved from: http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/49f569cf2.html

UNHCR. (2009, Feb.) Syria Update. Retrieved from: http://www.un.org.sy/forms/publications/files/UNHCR Syria Update February 2009.pdf

UNHCR. (2010, Dec. 17). UNHCR dismayed at forced repatriation of Iraqis; reports increase in flight of Iraqi Christians. Retrieved from: http://www.unhcr.org.uk/news-and-views/news-list/news-detail/article/unhcr-dismayed-at-forced-repatriation-of-iraqis-reports-increase-in-flight-of-iraqi-christians.html

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom. (2010, Aug 17). Congress highlights USCIRF recommendations on Iraq. Retrieved from: www.uscirf.gov/news-room/press-releases/3281-8172010-congress-highlights-uscirfs-concerns-about-religious-minorities-in-iraq.html

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom. (2010, Nov. 18). USCIRF Comment on State Department's Annual Report on International Religious Freedom. Retrieved from: http://www.uscirf.gov/news-room/press-releases/3458-11172010-uscirf-comment-on-state-departments-annual-report-on-international-religious-freedom.html

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (2010, Dec. 14). USCIRF Urges Upgrading Security in Iraq for Christians and Other Imperiled Religious Communities. Retrieved from: http://uscirf.gov/news-room/press-releases/3480--uscirf-urges-upgrading-security-in-iraq-for-christians-and-other-imperiled-religious-communities.html