

## Inauguration of IraqChild Project

Thousands of children in Iraq suffers from the continuing violence, particularly in Baghdad, Anbar, Najaf, Diyala and Basra. They are deprived form their childhood, the precious time of their lives. And perhaps an even more terrifying is the damaging proportions and impact the normal physiological and psychological growth of the children in an environment that is dominated by murder and hate.

Recognizing this growing humanitarian needs, Iraqi Association, in consultation with local non governmental organisations and concern medical doctors and parents in Iraq, has launched an initiative to provide emergency support and development programme to help Iraqi children, those who have been affected by wars and violence. The inauguration of the project took place on 23 March 2007 in the Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, west London.



Among the guests were Andy Slaughter, British Member of Parliament, Canon John Record of the Parish of St Peter Hammersmith, Professor Abdullah Al Mousawi, Iraqi Embassy Cultural Attaché and Noaman Muna, Chairman of Almal NGO in Iraq. The reception was also attended by other distinguished guests and the Trustees of Iraqi Association. The opening speech was made by Roza Mohammed-Ali, solicitor and volunteer, Iraqi British born, followed by Abdul Ilah Tawfik, Iraqi Association Chairman, and Jabbar Hasan, Director of the charity. A message of support was received from Antony Lillis, the Hammersmith & Fulham conservative councillor and Borough's Cabinet Member for Community & Children's Services.

This initiative is also supported by the Labour Friends of Iraq, and David Anderson, British Member of Parliament tabled an Early Day Motion in the House of Commons to support this move, so far 38 British Members of Parliament have signed the motion to back-up IraqChild Appeal.

**EDM 1184 House of Commons David Anderson MP IRAQCHILD APPEAL 21.03.2007 signed by 38 MPs**

*That this House notes that almost half of Iraq's total population is under 18 years and is particularly vulnerable to violence, abandoned ordnance, displacement, sectarianism and lack of medical treatment due to the flight of medical professionals; further notes that 818,000 children, 22.2 per cent. of the total number of students, are unable to attend school due to security concerns or in order to work to supplement the family income; believes that assisting Iraqi children is vital because they are the future of the country; applauds the work of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and local humanitarian groups in difficult security circumstances; and welcomes the initiative of the London-based Iraqi Association, in consultation with local NGOs and other medical staff in Iraq, to establish the IraqChild Appeal, whose emergency appeal target is £250,000 and whose main goal is to provide help and assistance to Iraqi children through spreading public awareness of their needs and by providing aid and welfare protection, emergency aid and psychosocial treatment through local NGOs as well as the development of creative children's activities aimed at uniting children who have been driven apart because of sectarian violence and hate. For the latest please visit <http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/Default.aspx>*

**The life of this child was ended on 19 March 2007.  
It is time to save precious lives.**

Photo Iraqi Association ©

**In September last year her dad was murdered by sadistic terrorists in Baghdad. On Monday 19 March this year they murdered her. Zahra was 5. Then the evil killers shot Zahra's mother, now she is in critical condition in one of Baghdad's hospitals. For more information contact Iraqi Association. [www.iraqiassociation.org](http://www.iraqiassociation.org)**

**Support IraqChild Appeal**