

English Supplement

Al-Muntada

Of the Iraqi Association

www.iraqiasociation.org

**IRAQI
ASSOCIATION**

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Life is Stronger than the ISIS Toxic Terror



When ISIS terrorists in Iraq forced thousands of people to flee their homes, some of those displaced people of over 850,000 mainly Iraqi Christians, Êzidi Kurds, and those who escaped Mosul city, sought safety in the Kurdish area. Half a million of them are in the Kurdish city of

Dohuk alone. The great majority of these 850,000 internally displaced are members of religious minorities – Christians from the Ninewa Plains and Êzidi Kurds from the Sinjar area. Most of these people have witnessed death of family members, relatives and friends in the hands of ISIS

psychopath murderers.

The documented incidents include 1,700 captives executed in Tikrit, Iraq, and 650 in the city of Mosul. Some 1,000 Turkmen massacred, including 100 children. More than 2,000 women and children kidnapped and sold as slaves, with systematic hunting of members of ethnic and religious groups. As well as that, women raped and sold. Young boys executed. Girls enslaved for sexual abuse. Children recruited as suicide bombers.

Those who fled the Islamist terrorists sought refuge in different places just to save their lives. A small number are in camps, but most live in empty and unfinished buildings, public parks, highway underpasses, and under tarps. They are enduring scorching summer heat and dread the harsh Kurdish winter weather that is coming soon. As seasons are changing and summer's heat is passing.

They are deeply worried, because winter will soon bring bitter cold, and many of them will not survive particularly elderly and children.

In Iraq, overall, the number of internally displaced people is now over 3.5 million;

they are generally extremely vulnerable and live in constant fear, with limited access to shelter, food, and basic services. Although the Government of Iraq announced plans in January 2011 to address internal displacement issues, the vast majority of them continue to live in temporary inadequate shelters. The unemployment rate among them remains high, and women, children and persons without official identification documents are particularly vulnerable.

The humanitarian crisis in Iraq is in dire situation, many local community groups are making valuable efforts to help and provide necessary basic needs such as food and water.

But the scale of the problem required both, the Kurdish regional government and the central government to agree on a strategy with an immediate action plan of relief work.

This demands the collaboration of concerned, local and international non-governmental organisations, to set and implement immediate, medium and long term programmes of relief work in Iraq.

Iraqi Association's Highlight



Although our charity is small, but the impact of our work is far greater than that.

As a non sectarian organisation, we serve and respect all people regardless of their gender, marital status, race, ethnic origin, religion, age, sexual orientation or physical and mental capability.

To highlight some of our data, in the six months from March to end of August 2014, we have provided face to face and telephone advice to 776 people, including 39 from out of greater London area. Among those,

we served 146 residents of our local borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. This followed by the second highest of 100, from Ealing borough. The third of 85 people from Westminster area. These represents %52 females and %48 males.

We are proud of our charitable work, despite the fact that we operate on a shoestring budget. We assist and aim at helping vulnerable who have nowhere else to go. In the same period, we have also recruited 11 volunteers. On average, we assign 7 regular volunteers every week. Volunteerism is an important vital part of our work.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED...

Our Charity provides skills and experience in areas of administration, confidence building, work environment, IT skills and communication with different age groups of people. Minimum hours 7 per week for the period of three to twelve months.

For further please contact Jabbar on 0207 023 2650.



Join us and make a real difference.



Student Aisha Abdulsalam On Track To Become First Iraqi Kurdish Female Pilot

After achieving A-levels in Maths and Art & Design, Aisha Abdulsalam from Putney Academy, is set to be the world's first Iraqi Kurdish female Pilot. She has gained a place to study Aviation Pilot Studies at Buckinghamshire New University.

Aviation has always been a dream of Aisha's, inspired by her uncle, a pilot. "He used to tell me about planes and how fun it was," she explained.

However, it was joining the Air Cadets which made Aisha decide to turn her dream into a reality.

"I started flying solo and then I felt the thrill of it and I was like, 'that's it. I want to be a pilot'. That's the day that I was definitely one hundred percent sure what I wanted to do."

Aisha's dreams do not end with becoming a pilot, however. "I don't want to stop there. I want to organise my own charity."

The charity she envisions would provide support to families and carers of those suffering from terminal illnesses, a topic close to her heart.

Last year, on top of juggling her A-levels, Aisha was caring for her mum who was diagnosed with cancer. "I would like people to be helped out so that the person can be looked after while they go and do whatever they want to do."

Aisha understands the importance of her education in realising her dream: "Education is your oyster."

It takes you where you want to go. If you apply yourself to whatever you want to do and in your education then it will always be behind you one hundred percent."

You Can Dream It, With Hard Work, You Can Do It

There are no secrets to success, it is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failures. Recently one of our community members, Assala Sabah Alshahir has won a scholarship to study Master degree in English Literature. Assala has a choice between Cambridge University and Oxford University.

She decided to go for Oxford University. Earlier Assala received her first degree graduation in English Literature in Cambridge University, Emmanuel College. She has written in many University publications, and has published her first novel at the age of 16. In her A Level exam, Assala achieved 4 A* in Math, Biology, Chemistry and English literature. We wish her the best on her future challenges.



Fiona's Charity Walk for IraqChild Appeal



Fiona Mackay is 75, she has embarked on a sponsored walk on behalf of Iraqi children in Baghdad, it is one of Iraqi Association projects. The money raised will go towards the charity's education centre for displaced children in Baghdad.

Fiona's journey began at Oxford and finished at Banbury 31 miles away. By her own account Fiona witnessed the beautiful countryside and interacted with a number of interesting people. The walk went south to north along the canal which Fiona divided approximately 8 miles a day. Along her journey Fiona

noticed the flourishing fauna of the local countryside such as Herons and farm animals that so often dot an English countryside that is often overlooked by city dwellers. In addition Fiona noticed the kempt surrounding of the canal routes that is nicely looked after by the canal and river trust. Fiona's observations hold a symbolic value for those that dream of a better Iraq. The interconnectedness between the local environment and community spirit shown by Fiona and the people she spoke to regarding the situation in Iraq are inspirational proof that a better community can exist.

Fiona stands as a remarkable citizen and an outstanding example for voluntary action and community participation. Her commitment to raise awareness and money for this cause has gone a long way to keep the Iraq Child campaign alive. Please give whatever you can to support Fiona's campaign of IraqChild Appeal. You can send your donation to:

Iraq Child, Iraqi Association, Office C, Norland House, 9 Queensdale Crescent, London W11 4TL



IRAQI ASSOCIATION (IA)

The Iraqi Association is a non-profit organisation that exists to enable Iraqis to settle and integrate in this country with rights to express their cultural identities. Our work aimed at Iraqis, by providing volunteerism, advice, public health support, counselling, training, employment guidance,

information services, and organising cultural events. It is also our mission to raise awareness about relevant events in Iraq and the integration process in this country."

Our Aims and Methods:

We provide the following services to our clients regardless of their race,

ethnic origin, language, and gender, religious or political background.

- Face-to-face support session
- Group empowerment session
- Workshop advice session
- Training session
- Outreach work
- Client-led information

