

Incipient Genocide

The Ethnic Cleansing of the Assyrians of Iraq



Assyrian International News Agency

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The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.

Matthew 12:41

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Executive Summary

Assyrians are the only autochthonous people of Iraq, having lived in their ancestral lands in north Iraq since 5000 B.C. Assyrians are Christians, belonging to three main denominations: The Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East, the Syriac Orthodox Church and the Chaldean Church of Babylon. The native language of Assyrians is neo-Syriac (neo-Aramaic). This distinct identity of Assyrians, especially their Christian faith, sets them apart from the rest of the population.

Assyrians comprised 8% (1.5 million) of the Iraqi population in April of 2003. Since then 50% have fled the country. Of the 750,000 Iraqi refugees in Jordan up to 150,000 are Assyrians. Of the 1.2 million Iraqi refugees in Syria, 70,000 to 500,000 are Assyrians.

From 1995 to 2010 379 Assyrians were killed. For the years 1995-2002 there were 19 murders, averaging 2.37 per year. After the liberation of Iraq in 2003, the average number of murders for the years 2003-2010 was 54.14 2280% higher than for the years 1995-2002. The geographic distribution of the murders was 40.45% in north Iraq, 57.54% in central Iraq and 2.01% in south Iraq. Kurds, Sunnis, Shiites and al-Qaeda engaged in murdering Assyrians. Examples included:

- A 2 month old infant kidnapped, beheaded, roasted and returned to its parents on a bed of rice
- 14 year old Ayad Tariq decapitated because he is a "dirty Christian sinner"
- A 14 year old boy crucified in his own village in Mosul
- Fr. Paulos Iskander (Paul Alexander) kidnapped, beheaded and dismembered

5 priests were kidnapped and released after ransom was paid. 7 priests and 3 deacons were murdered, for a total of 15. 8 of these occurred in Baghdad, 7 in Mosul.

66 churches were attacked or bombed since June, 2004: 41 in Baghdad, 19 in Mosul, 5 in Kirkuk and 1 in Ramadi.

At least 13 young women were abducted and raped, causing some of them to commit suicide.

Female students were targeted in Basra and Mosul for not wearing veils; some had nitric acid squirted on their faces. Elders of a village in Mosul were warned not to send females to universities.

Mahdi Army personnel circulated a letter warning all Christian women to veil themselves.

Al-Qaeda moved into an Assyrian neighborhood and began collecting the *jizya* and demanding that females be sent to the mosque to be married off to Muslims.

Assyrian businesses were targeted. 95% of liquor stores were attacked, defaced or bombed. 500 Assyrian shops in a Dora market were burned in one night.

Property was confiscated by Kurds in the north and Shiites in Baghdad.

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Kurdish authorities denied foreign reconstruction assistance for Assyrian communities and used public works projects to divert water and other vital resources from Assyrian to Kurdish communities. Kurdish forces blockaded Assyrian villages

Children were kidnapped and forcibly transferred to Kurdish families.

Introduction

A systematic campaign of persecution of the Church of the East, Chaldean, Syriac Orthodox and Syriac Catholic Christians (collectively Assyrians) of Iraq is unfolding. It began in the Kurdish regions of north Iraq shortly after the first Gulf war and spread to Baghdad and Basra after the liberation of Iraq in April of 2003. In the last three months it has intensified and is now openly declared in some areas of Iraq.

The persecution is not restricted to a single location, it is occurring in Basra in the south, in Baghdad in the center, and in the Kurdish controlled areas in the north. It is targeting Assyrians physically, economically, mentally, religiously and culturally.

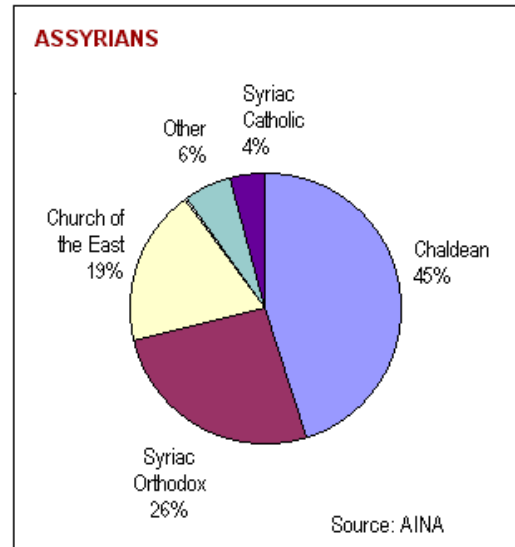
This campaign is targeting Iraq's only indigenous group, the Assyrians, and has forced nearly 50% of the Assyrians to flee the country¹. Assyrians comprised 8% (1.5 million) of the Iraqi population in April of 2003. Of the 750,000 Iraqi refugees in Jordan, Christian Solidarity International estimates that up to 150,000 are Assyrians. Of the 1.2 million Iraqi refugees in Syria, 70,000 to 500,000 are Assyrians. What is causing this Assyrian flight?

Random Violence?

There is a civil war, or something very close to it, happening in Iraq. Thousands of Sunnis and Shiites have been killed. Are Assyrians the random victims of this violence or are they targeted specifically because of their ethnic, religious, cultural and linguistic distinctiveness?

Assyrians² are ethnically distinct from Arabs and Kurds. They are the only autochthonous people of Iraq, having lived in their ancestral lands in north Iraq since 5000 B.C. Assyrians are Christians, belonging to three main denominations: The Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East, the Syriac Orthodox Church and the Chaldean Church of Babylon. The native language of Assyrians is neo-Syriac³ (neo-Aramaic). This distinct identity of Assyrians, especially their Christian faith, sets them apart from the rest of the population.

Whereas Sunni-Shiite violence is characterized by mutual aggression, Muslim⁴-Assyrian violence is



¹ UNHCR. *Background Information on the Situation of Non-Muslim Religious Minorities in Iraq, October 2005*, (<http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rsd/rsddocview.pdf?tbl=RSDLEGAL&id=4371cf5b4>). Since this report was published, the exodus of Assyrians has dramatically increased and is now near 50%, as reported in the *2007 Annual Report Of The United States Commission On International Religious Freedom* (<http://www.aina.org/reports/uscirf2007.pdf>).

² See *Assyrians: Frequently Asked Questions*, <http://www.aina.org/faq.html> and *Brief History of Assyrians*, <http://www.aina.org/aol/peter/brief.htm>.

³ Modern Assyrian (neo-Syriac) is derived from Assyrian Aramaic (or Imperial Aramaic), the eastern branch of Aramaic that was made the second (after Akkadian) official language of Assyria in 752 BC. The western branch of Aramaic, Palestinian Aramaic, is now extinct. See <http://www.aina.org/articles/akkadianwords.html> and <http://www.assyrianlanguage.com>.

⁴ We shall use the term Muslim to include Kurds and Sunni and Shiite Arabs, but not Turkmen.

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unidirectional: Assyrians are exclusively the victims. Assyrians are unarmed and have not engaged in any acts of aggression.

Muslim violence on Assyrians is primarily driven by deep religious prejudice and the strict application of *Shari'a*⁵ by Jihadists⁶.

Being unarmed, oppressed and disadvantaged by centuries of prejudice and dhimmi⁷ status, the Assyrians have become the targets of persecution country-wide, from Kurds, Shiites and Sunnis. We shall show in the following pages that since Assyrians are not capable of defending themselves and are targeted *as a class* because of their distinct identity, what is now unfolding in Iraq can be termed an incipient genocide.

Definition of Genocide

We shall define genocide as prescribed in the *UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide*⁸ (UNCG), which is the legal definition of genocide. There are other ways of defining genocide⁹, but they need not concern us.

Article 2 of UNCG lays down the meaning of genocide:

In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

- (a) Killing members of the group;
- (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

In the following pages we shall show that acts of type (a), (b), (c) and (e) have been committed against Assyrians in Iraq.

Sources

This report is based on published material. It is to be noted that a great number of crimes against Assyrians are unreported and unpublished. Many Assyrian refugees in Syria, Jordan and various European and American cities have stated that they or family members or friends were victims of murder and violence; but many of these refugees were too fearful to report the incidents, even when living outside of Iraq.

⁵ *Shari'a* is the Koranic religious law that cannot be superseded by any other law, such as secular, civil or international law.

⁶ Jihadists in Iraq are not only Al-Qaeda Sunnis, but Muqtada al-Sadr Shiites as well.

⁷ A legal status of Christians, Jews and Zoroastrians which nominal religious independence in exchange for acceptance of humiliating regulations designed to enforce the Koran's command that they "feel themselves subdued" (Sura 9:29). See <http://www.dhimmi.org> and <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dhimmi>.

⁸ http://www.un.org/Depts/dpa/prev_genocide/convention.htm

⁹ R. J. Rummel. *Genocide*, <http://www.hawaii.edu/powerkills/GENOCIDE.ENCY.HTM>

Killing Members of the Group

Appendix 1 lists the Assyrians murdered in Iraq from 1995 to 2008. 315 Assyrians were killed during this period.

Figure 1 shows the number of murders by year. For the years 1995-2002 there are 19 murders, averaging 2.37 per year (counting 1996, 2000 and 2001, which had no murders and are not shown in the graph).

After the liberation of Iraq in 2003, the average number of murders for the years 2003-2010 is 47.28, which is 1991% higher than for the years 1995-2002.

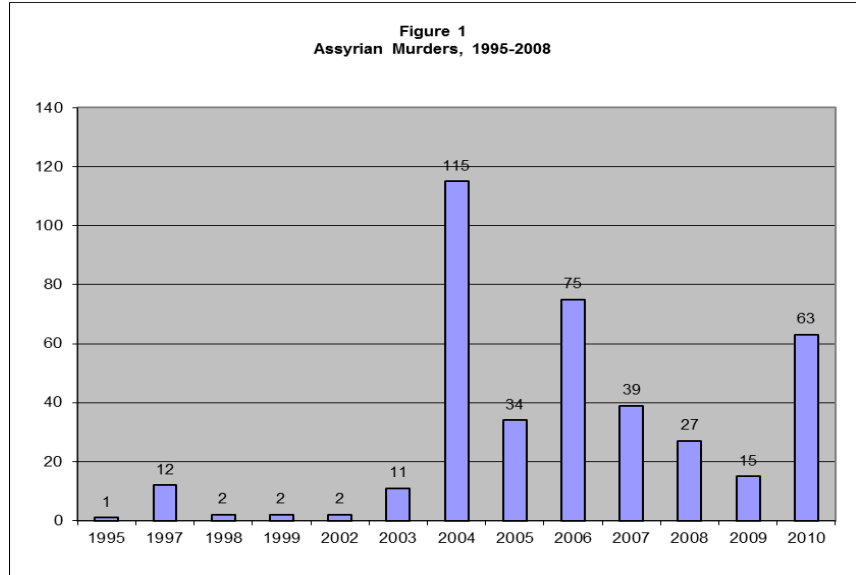
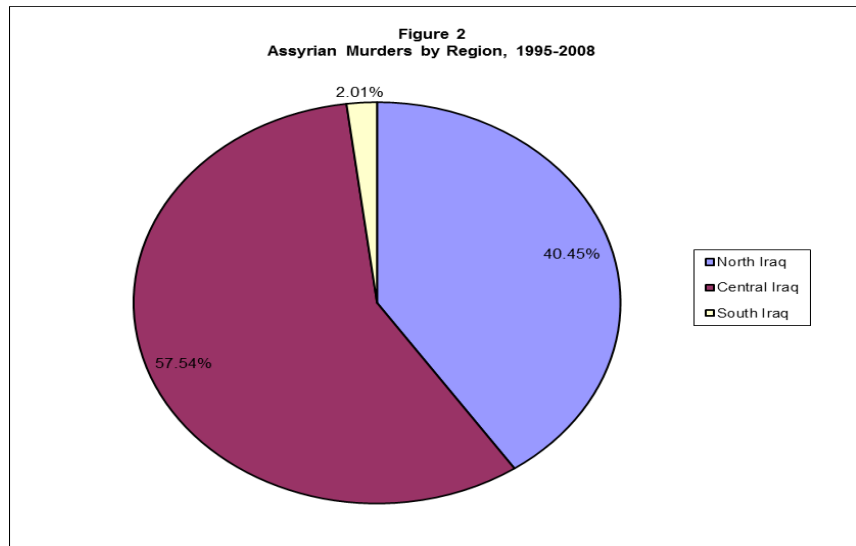
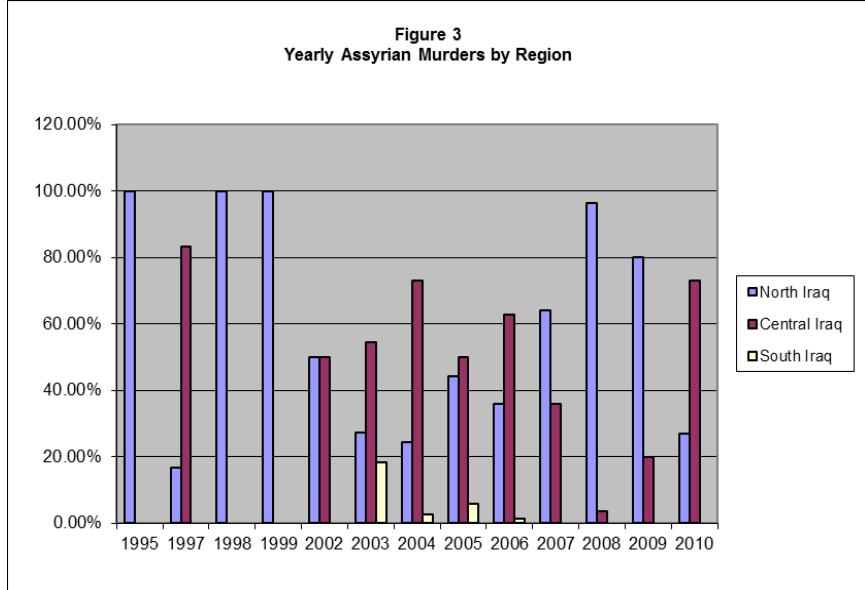


Figure 2 shows the geographic distribution of the murders. Note that murders in the "other Iraq," the purportedly safe Kurdish region in the north, are 45.43% of the total.



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Figure 3 shows the yearly murders by region. Note again the pattern in the Kurdish region in north Iraq.



The following table shows the murderers and the number of their victims by year:

Identity of Murderers	1995	1997	1998	1999	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Kurds	1	2		2	1	1	1	3	2				
Sunnis									2				
Shiites										1			
al-Qaeda							40			1	12		46
Unknown	0	10	2	0	1	10	74	31	71	37	15	15	17

Here are a few excerpts from Appendix 1.

June 3, 2007. Mosul. 4 murdered.

Fr. Ragheed Ganni, Deacon Basman Yousef Daud, Deacon Wahid Hanna Isho, Deacon Gassan Isam Bidawed of the Holy Spirit Church were killed by a hail of bullets from a group of gunmen. The four had finished mass at 7.30 PM and were driving away in the priest's car when they were intercepted, about 100 meters from the church, by a car; four men got out and shot them. Their car was booby trapped to prevent the retrieval of the bodies.



Fr. Ragheed Ganni

October 21, 2006. Baquba. 1 murdered.

14 year old Christian Assyrian, Ayad Tariq, was decapitated at his work place. He was working his 12 hour shift, maintaining an electric generator, when a group of disguised Muslim insurgents walked in at the beginning of his shift shortly after 6 a.m. and asked him for his ID.

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According to another employee who witnessed the events, and who hid when he saw the insurgents approach, the insurgents questioned Ayad after seeing that his ID stated "Christian", asking if he was truly a "Christian sinner." Ayad replied "yes, I am Christian but I am not a sinner." The insurgents quickly said this is a "dirty Christian sinner!" Then they proceeded to each hold one limb, shouting "Allahu akbar! Allahu akbar!" while beheading the boy. October 11, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Fr. Paulos Iskander (Paul Alexander) was kidnapped by an unknown Islamic group on October 9 and beheaded on October 11. His arms and legs were severed from his body.



Father Paulos Iskandar

November 29, 2005. Mosul. 2 murdered, 2 wounded.



Funeral of one of the victims of the November 29, 2005. Mosul shooting

Gunmen in two cars opened fire on four members of the Assyrian Democratic Movement as they hung Iraqi election posters in Mosul, killing Yousif Nabil Ishmael (b. 1986) and Gewargis Brikha Youkhana (b. 1980); wounded were Simon Edmon Youkhana (b. 1983) and Milad Zakkar Mansour (b. 1987).

September 22, 2005. Baghdad. 4 murdered.

In the Baghdad neighborhood, gunmen opened fire on a Nissan pickup truck that was carrying six Assyrian security guards assigned to protect Ms. Pascale Warda Esho, the former Iraqi Minister of Displacement and Migration. Ms. Warda was not harmed in this attack. The body guards were on their way to collect Ms. Warda Esho. Killed were Daniel Nissan Philipos and Ninos Nissan Philipos (brothers), Mahir Muneb Hanna Johnny Youkhanna David. Mr. Nabeel Matti, a commanding officer from Bartilla, was critically injured.



Four security guards

August 8, 2005. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Anita Tyadors (Theodores), 21, a student in Nineveh Art Academy, was kidnapped and murdered, her body found in 'Akkab cemetery. Anita was kidnapped in the al-Zohoor quarter as she left an Internet Café. Up to ten assailants pistol-whipped her and threw her limp body



Anita Tyadors, 21

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into the trunk of one of the three cars. She was driven to a remote location where she was brutalized beyond recognition. All of the assailants jumped out of their vehicles and proceeded to beat her, then stab and knife her. She was bludgeoned and gored. The men shot at her lifeless body and finished the job with a resounding final bullet to the head.

June 2, 2005. Kirkuk. 1 murdered, 2 injured.

Randy Robert Alexin, 5, was killed by a car bomb in the Arrapha Assyrian quarter. His parents were injured and brought to a nearby hospital. The funeral was held in St. George Church in the Almas quarter.



Randy Robert Alexin

July 11, 2004. Baghdad. 2 murdered.

Raneed Raad, 16, and her sister Raphid, 6, were shot at point blank range by assailants who broke into their house when their parents were away. The Assyrian family had been threatened earlier but no measures were taken to protect it.



Raphid Raad, 6



Raneed Raad, 16

April 10, 2003. Kirkuk. 1 murdered.

Hazim Petrus Damman, a chemical engineer, was killed during a Kurdish raid.



Hazim Petrus Damman

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August 15, 2002. Baghdad. 1 murdered.



Cecilia Moshi Hanna

Three armed assailants entered the Sacred Heart of Jesus Monastery and murdered Sister Cecilia Moshi Hanna. She repeatedly stabbed and neck was slit and her head severed from her body.

May 3, 1999. Dohuk. 1 murdered.

The body of Ms. Helena Aloun Sawa, 21, was found in early June by a shepherd, partially buried in a shallow grave in near Dohuk dam. She had disappeared on May 3rd. The decomposed body was partially exposed and appeared to have been partially eaten by

scavenging wild animals. She had been working for Azet Al Din Al Barwari, a high ranking member of the political bureau of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, who was suspected in her murder.



Helena Sawa

Causing Serious Bodily or Mental Harm to Members of the Group

Attacks on Religious Symbols and Institutions

Attacks on Clergy

The kidnapping and murder of clergy began on August 15, 2006. Since then, 5 priests have been kidnapped and released after ransom was paid, and 4 priests and 3 deacons have been murdered, for a total of 12. 5 of these have occurred in Baghdad, 7 in Mosul.

The following is a list of priests kidnapped or killed:



Fr. Youssef Adel

April 4, 2008-04-05

Youssef Adel, a priest with Saint Peter's Church, was killed by gunmen traveling in a car around noon.¹⁰

March 13, 2008

Archbishop Paulus Faraj Rahho was kidnapped on February 29 in Mosul. His body was found on March 13. Three traveling companions, Faris, Rami, and Samir, were killed at the time of the kidnapping.¹¹



Archbishop Paulus Rahho

June 6, 2007

Fr. Hani Abdel Ahad, in his early 30s, was kidnapped a north-eastern section of Baghdad called Suleikh, along with five boys who were going with him to visit the city's minor seminar.¹²

June 3, 2007

Fr. Ragheed Ganni and three deacons were gunned down in their car in Mosul. The car was booby trapped with explosives to prevent anyone from retrieving the bodies.¹³



Fr. Ragheed Ganni

May 20, 2007

Fr. Nawzat P. Hanna was kidnapped in Baghdad and freed three days later. He was beaten while in captivity.¹⁴

¹⁰ <http://www.aina.org/news/20080405055848.htm>

¹¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20080229154859.htm>

¹² <http://www.aina.org/news/20070606134604.htm>

¹³ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070603143027.htm>

¹⁴ <http://www.aina.org/news/2007052292908.htm>

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December 5, 2006

Fr. Samy Al Raiys was kidnapped in Baghdad and subsequently released after ransom was paid.¹⁵

November 30, 2006

Fr. Mundhir al-Dayr of the Protestant Church in Mosul was found dead with a bullet in his head. He was abducted on November 26 and was found dead four days later. A message from the abductors demanded one million dollars as ransom or they will "kill all Christians starting with Fr. Al-Dayr."¹⁶

November 19, 2006

Fr. Doglas Yousef Al Bazy was kidnapped in Baghdad and released nine days later after ransom was paid.¹⁷

October 9, 2006

Fr. Paulos Iskander (Paul Alexander) was kidnapped by an unknown Islamic group and beheaded and dismembered three days later.¹⁸



Father Paulos Iskandar

August 15, 2006

Fr. Saad Sirop, 34, head of the Theology Department at Babel College, the only university-level Christian institution in Iraq, was kidnapped in Baghdad and released one month later.¹⁹

Attacks on Churches

	Church Bombings	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
The first church bombing occurred on June 26, 2004, and drew little attention. Two unidentified men in a silver Opel throw a hand bomb at the Holy Spirit Church in Mosul. Five weeks later, on August 1 st , 2004, coordinated bombings struck five churches, four in Baghdad and 1 in Mosul.	Baghdad	11		12	6	4	7	1
	Mosul	3		3		7	6	
	Kirkuk		1	2		2		
	Ramadi	1						
	Yearly subtotal	15	1	17	6	13	13	1
	Total	66						

66 churches have been bombed since June 26, 2004. Appendix 2 contains photographs of church bombings. The following table shows church bombings by year and location:

The following is a list of churches bombed or attacked:

¹⁵ <http://www.aina.org/news/2006120595730.htm>
¹⁶ AsiaNews, <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.67216.0.html>
¹⁷ <http://www.aina.org/news/20061120105018.htm>
¹⁸ <http://www.aina.org/news/20061013195154.htm>
¹⁹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20060818111054.htm>

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October 31, 2010: 1 church attacked

Our Lady of Deliverance Chaldean Catholic church, in the inner-city suburb of Karrada, was stormed by an Al-Qaeda affiliated group. 46 Assyrians were killed, including two priests.²⁰

December 23, 2009: 2 churches bombed.

In Mosul the church of St. George and the church of St. Thomas were bombed, killing three people. The church of St. Thomas is 1200 years old.²¹

December 15, 2009: 2 churches bombed.

The Al Gahera (Our Lady of Purity) Syrian Orthodox Church in Mosul's city center was bombed and significantly damaged. 4 persons were killed and 40 injured.

The Al Beshara (Annunciation) Syrian Catholic Church in Mosul was bombed at 10:30. The bomb caused a minor explosion and damaged the wall, but nobody was hurt.²²

November 26, 2009: 1 church, 1 convent bombed.

In the western Jadida (New Mosul) district, the Church of St Ephrem and the St Theresa Convent of Dominican Nuns were bombed and heavily damaged. No casualties were reported.²³



July 12, 2009: 7 churches bombed.

Seven churches were bombed in Baghdad, killing 4 and injuring 18. The churches are:

1. The Church of St Mary in Sharaa Philistine, were four were killed
2. The Church of Saint George in the district at Madidi
3. The St. Joseph Church in Nafak, western Baghdad
4. The Church of the Sacred Heart
5. The church of St Peter and Paul
6. The Assyrian Church of Saint Mary
7. The St. James Church in Dora²⁴

²⁰ <http://www.aina.org/news/20101101215020.htm>, <http://www.aina.org/news/20101101005521.htm>

²¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20091223131313.htm>, <http://www.aina.org/news/20091223131437.htm>

²² <http://www.aina.org/news/20091215172119.htm>, <http://www.aina.org/news/20091216173353.htm>

²³ <http://www.aina.org/news/20091126150149.htm>

²⁴ <http://www.aina.org/news/20090712165500.htm>, <http://www.aina.org/news/20090712143910.htm>,
<http://www.aina.org/news/20090712140407.htm>, <http://www.aina.org/news/20090712140255.htm>,
<http://www.aina.org/news/20090712165831.htm>, <http://www.aina.org/news/20090712140222.htm>

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October 13, 2008: 1 church bombed.

The Miskinta Church of Mosul was bombed, damaging the building.²⁵

January 9, 2008: 2 churches bombed.

Two churches were bombed in central and northern Kirkuk; three people were wounded.²⁶

January 6, 2008: 7 churches bombed.

In Mosul:

- Chaldean Church of Saint Paul
- Nunnery of Dominican Sisters
- Orphanage of the Chaldean Sisters

In Baghdad:

- Rum Orthodox Church (where the guard was injured)
- Mar Ghorghis Chaldean church in Ghadir area
- Saint Paul Chaldean church in Zafaraniya area where, according to Mgr. Warduni, the car bomb was discovered before its explosion and defused.
- Chaldean sisters nunnery in Zafaraniya



One man was slightly injured in these bombings.²⁷

June 4, 2007. 2 churches attacked.

St. Jacob Church, near the Asia Neighborhood (Hay Asya) in Dora, was attacked and the Christian guards killed, the church was looted and will be turned into a mosque. St. John the Baptist Church near the Hay Al-Athoriyeen (Assyrian quarter) was also looted.²⁸

May 31, 2007. 1 convent attacked.

Shiites occupied the Angel Raphael Convent, belonging to the Chaldean Sisters of the Sacred Heart, in Dora, Baghdad and turned it into a base for military operations.²⁹

²⁵ <http://www.aina.org/news/20081014223212.htm>

²⁶ <http://www.aina.org/news/2008019085642.htm>

²⁷ <http://www.aina.org/news/20080106162040.htm>

²⁸ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070604130634.htm>

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May 18, 2007. 1 church attacked.

St. George Assyrian Church in the Dora neighborhood of Baghdad was firebombed.³⁰

April 14, 2007. 2 churches, 1 monastery attacked.

An Islamic group forcefully removed the Cross from the churches of St. John and St. George in Dora, Baghdad. An affiliated Islamic group in Northern Iraq occupied the Assyrian monastery of Raban Hormuz.³¹

November 1, 2006. 1 church bombed.

Unknown assailants bombed the entrance of the Dominican Clock Church compound, a Catholic church in Mosul.³²

October 8, 2006. 1 church bombed.

Two bombs exploded around 6:30 A.M. near the Church of Virgin Mary on Palestine road in Baghdad. The outer walls of the church were damaged and the windows of many parked cars that belong to the church were shattered. One policeman was killed and many bystanders were injured.³³

October 4, 5 2006. 1 church attacked.

A group of men opened fire on the Chaldean Church of the Holy Spirit in Mosul, the second time in 8 days.³⁴

September 27, 2006. 1 church attacked.

A rocket attack was launched against the Chaldean Catholic Church of the Holy Spirit in Mosul.³⁵

September 24, 2006. 1 church bombed.

St. Mary's Cathedral, the home of His Holiness Mar Addai II, Patriarch of The Ancient Church of the East, was bombed. Located in the Riyadh district of Baghdad the cathedral experienced dual bombings, a small IED followed, few minutes after, by a car detonation carrying a large amount of explosives. The bombing was timed to take place as the worshipers were leaving the Sunday morning sermon. 2 were killed and 20 injured.³⁶

²⁹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070601151953.htm>

³⁰ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070518182239.htm>

³¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070414141226.htm>

³² <http://www.aina.org/news/2006120893922.htm>

³³ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic,59303.0.html>

³⁴ <http://www.aina.org/news/20060926112353.htm>

³⁵ <http://www.aina.org/news/20060926220244.htm>

³⁶ <http://www.aina.org/news/20060924135137.htm>

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September 8, 2006. 1 church bombed.

Two bombs exploded in front of the main gate of a church in al-Za'faraniyya in Baghdad. The explosions caused damage to the church and injured the church guards.³⁷

June 2, 2006. 1 church bombed.

Kaneesat al-Si'aood (The Church of Ascension) in Baghdad was attacked by a rocket bomb. The bomb caused damage to the church building and made a hole in the church dome.³⁸

February 1 2006. 1 church bombed.

The Baghdad Seventh-day Adventist Church was bombed for the second time in two years, injuring an armed guard, one of two permanently stationed to protect the church compound.³⁹

January 29, 2006. 4 churches bombed.

Car bombs exploded outside the Vatican embassy and near four churches in Iraq, killing at least three people.

In Kirkuk, three civilians were killed and one wounded in the attack on the Church of the Virgin, and six civilians were hurt in the blast outside an Orthodox church.

In Baghdad, car bombs exploded outside St Joseph's Catholic Church in the suburb of Sina'a and an Anglican church in the eastern Nidhal area.⁴⁰

November 2, 2005. 1 church bombed.

At approximately 5:00 P.M. a car bomb exploded near the Church of Mar Giwargis (St. George) in the Assyrian quarter of Almas district in Kirkuk. 3 were killed.⁴¹

July 16, 2005 1 church bombed.

A small explosion rocked the Assyrian Church in Habbaniya, Ramadi in Iraq. There was some damage to the roof of the church.

December 7, 2004. 2 churches bombed.

The Al-Tahira Chaldean Catholic Church and Armenian church that was under construction were bombed in Mosul. The first blast struck the al-Tahira ("the pure," in reference to the Virgin Mary) Church about 2:30 p.m. in al-Shifa' neighborhood, eastern Mosul. Ten armed men stormed the church, planted explosives throughout it, and set the bombs off wounding three people and destroying most of it. An hour later, gunmen bombed in al-Wahda neighborhood, western Mosul, an Armenian church under construction. No casualties were reported there.⁴²

³⁷ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic,55392.0.html>

³⁸ http://www.nirgalgate.com/asp/v_news.asp?id=1878

³⁹ <http://www.aina.org/news/2006020195451.htm>

⁴⁰ <http://www.aina.org/news/20060129114957.htm>

⁴¹ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php?topic=16067.0>

⁴² <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,140751,00.html>

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November 8, 2004. 1 church bombed.

St Bahnam's Catholic church in Dora, Baghdad was bombed, killing 3 people and wounded 40. Police said a car bomb had exploded outside the church, but witnesses said it appeared explosives were planted nearby.⁴³

October 16, 2004. 5 churches bombed.

Five churches were bombed in Baghdad in a coordinated attack.

The church of Saint Joseph in the west of the Iraqi capital was hit at about 4:00 am (0100 GMT).

Twenty minutes later, another blast ripped through the streets at another Saint Joseph church, in Dora, southern Baghdad. After another 20 minutes, Saint Paul's church was struck in the same area.

At 4:50 am, the Roman Catholic St. George church in the central district of Karrada was rocked by a blast and engulfed in flames, leaving the wood-built sanctuary completely charred.

A fifth explosion occurred about an hour later at Saint Thomas church in Mansour, to the west.

An artillery shell, believed to be intended for the church, was fired into a car park between a hotel and Saint George's Anglican Church.⁴⁴

September 11, 2004. 1 church bombed.

A car bomb exploded outside the Virgin Mary Seventh-Day Adventist Church in the Al-Sa'doun Park in the center of Baghdad.⁴⁵

September 10, 2004. 1 church bombed.

A bomb exploded at the Assyrian Anglican Church at al-Andalus Street in Baghdad. The explosion occurred during the night.⁴⁶

August 1, 2004. 5 churches bombed.

Five Assyrian, and one Armenian, Churches were bombed simultaneously in Baghdad and Mosul. Twelve Assyrians were killed and some 60 injured:

1. Church Sayidat al-Najat (Our Lady of Salvation) - Karrada, Baghdad
2. Church Sayidat al-Zohour (Our Lady of the Flowers) - Karrada, Baghdad (Armenian Catholic Church)

⁴³ <http://www.aina.org/news/20041108130705.htm>

⁴⁴ <http://www.aina.org/news/20041016133026.htm>

⁴⁵ <http://www.f21.parsimony.net/forum37811/messages/32035.htm>

⁴⁶ <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/PER170744.htm>

3. Sts. Peter & Paul, Dora, Baghdad
4. St. Paul Church - Center of Mosul
5. St. Elia, Baghdad
6. St. Mary's Church in east Baghdad (car bomb disarmed by police)⁴⁷

June 26, 2004. 1 church attacked.

Two unidentified men in a silver Opel throw a hand bomb at the Holy Spirit Church (al-Rooh al-Qudos) in the Akha' quarter in Mosul. The explosion injured the sister of the priest.⁴⁸

Attacks on Women

In December, 2006 Iraqi soldiers in Baghdad raided the house of Luana, a 22 year-old Assyrian Christian, on pretense of searching for insurgents. Luana lives with her brother, her family having immigrated to Sweden. Her brother is not home at the time of the raid. The soldiers ask unusual questions, give her strange looks. Two days later a soldier returns, enters her home, places his hand over her mouth and threatens to wait for her brother and kill him if she makes a sound. He drags her to the bedroom and rapes her. When finished, he instructs her not to file a police report else he will kill her brother.⁴⁹

Young Christian women are abducted and raped. Sources in some communities of nuns in Baghdad have relayed stories they witnessed. On October 8, 2006 young Christian women were abducted but under different circumstances: one at home as her helpless family could do nothing but watch; the other, at an open market where four armed men spirited her away in a car leaving behind a distraught mother. Often incidents do not end with the prisoner's release. In one case in Baghdad, the victim committed suicide after the ransom was paid and she went home, because of the torture and sexual violence she suffered. In another case, a young woman talked to her family by phone and told them: "I'm dead", referring to being gang raped. She eventually committed suicide whilst still in the hands of her tormenters. Unofficial estimates put the number of young women and girls abducted at 12.⁵⁰

Church leaders serving the Christian community of Karakush, Mosul, received a letter from Islamic militants in the last week of October, 2004, ordering them to allow Christian women to marry Muslim men (which in Muslim eyes means the women effectively convert to Islam). This, said the letter, would enable the women to be "blessed" and "purified" by their marriages.⁵¹

Attacks on Students

On December 11, 2006 an unidentified Islamic group placed flyers at the Student Union at Mosul University; the flyers contained messages directed at Assyrian students and were placed in areas where Assyrian students congregate. The flyers warned the Christian Assyrian students that "in cases where non-Muslims do not conform to wearing the *Hijab* (head cover for women)

⁴⁷ <http://www.aina.org/news/20040801140816.htm>, http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2004/8.3.04/index_tue.php

⁴⁸ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=1162>

⁴⁹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070214100015.htm>

⁵⁰ <http://www.aina.org/news/20061012003811.htm>

⁵¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20041104150200.htm>

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and are not conservative with their attire in accordance with the Islamic way, the violators will have the *Shari'a* and the Islamic Law applied to them."⁵²

On June 14, 2006 at approximately 11:30 A.M. Iraqi Policemen approached a group of Assyrian students leaving the University of Mosul after completing their final exams and, at the order of the police group leader, started severely beating and harassing the students. The police held the students down and shaved their heads as a form of public embarrassment and forced them to walk down the street to further display their 'shame' to the public.⁵³

On January 29, 2006 a group of Muslim students at the University of Mosul attacked Assyrian students. Several *fatwas* (religious edicts) were issued by Islamic militias associated with Islamic religious schools against Christians in Iraq. During the attacks, Muslim students chanted anti Christian slogans declaring their victims "sinners, infidels, and agents of the West." According to reports, the attackers also urged the "expulsion of the Crusaders and sinners from schools and public institutions."⁵⁴

On March 15, 2005 some 30 members Muqtada al-Sadr's al-Mahdi Army attacked a group of Assyrian engineering College students of Basra University. The students were having a picnic at al-Andalus Park in downtown Basra when a hooded gang attacked in the name of Islam and began to beat them with batons and sticks. Zahra Ashor was killed and fifteen others students were badly injured. When a fellow student attempted to help Zahra, he was shot in the head. The attacks were because the female students were not wearing the Islamic hijab (veil) and because the students were listening to music.⁵⁵

A letter received on November 2, 2004 by church leaders serving the Christian community of Karakush, Mosul, announced Muslims' intention of killing one person in every Christian family, as a punishment for the women not covering their heads and going to university. This followed pressure and threats from Islamic extremists against all women in Mosul, requiring them to cover their head with the *hijab*. A Christian woman was killed around 26th October for having her head uncovered. Two other Christian women who were seen bareheaded in a market had nitric acid squirted in their faces.⁵⁶

The ChaldoAssyrians Student and Youth Union of Mosul announced in a press release dated 10/18/2004 that 1500 Assyrians students stopped attending Mosul University effective 10/16/2004. The Student Union cited intense pressure on the Christian students by Muslims, especially on female students to wear the Muslim vail, and a lack of security as the basis for the boycott. The students had been harassed repeatedly and had received numerous threats from Muslims.⁵⁷

On February 17, 2004 at the Ankawa Boys High School, a group of Kurdish students from the Kurdistan Student Union entered classes and while classes were in session, they distributed

⁵² <http://www.aina.org/news/20061212104712.htm>

⁵³ <http://www.aina.org/news/20060617150016.htm>

⁵⁴ <http://www.aina.org/releases/20060207150230.htm>

⁵⁵ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=32&topic=1907>

⁵⁶ <http://www.aina.org/news/20041104150200.htm>

⁵⁷ <http://www.aina.org/news/20041020150606.htm>

applications to students to join the Kurdistan Student Union. The ChaldoAssyrian Student and Youth Union protested the illegal act.⁵⁸

Inflicting Psychological Terror

The attack on religious institutions and symbols has a profound effect on the Assyrians of Iraq. The case of Fr. Ganni, discussed above, very clearly demonstrates this. It is not enough that he and three deacons were killed; by booby trapping their car, in which they lay mortally wounded, by explosives, the murderers sought to terrorize the Assyrians by instilling a feeling of impotence and helplessness in them, by denying them the decency of tending to their dead.

There is no greater symbol of life and hope for Christians than the Cross and the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. This very symbolism was inverted and used to terrorize the residents of the al-Basra district in Mosul. On October 10, 2006 a 14 year old boy was crucified in al-Basra. An email from a priest in Sweden, Adris Hanna, describes the Muslim terror campaign against the Christians in Iraq:

The Syriac-Orthodox priest Paulos Iskandar was kidnapped this Monday, October 9, and beheaded today Wednesday October 11.

The Bishop in Mosul wrote me an email tonight and told me that the funeral will be held in Mosul tomorrow.

Christians are living a terrified life in Mosul and Baghdad. Several priests have been kidnapped, girls are being raped and murdered and a couple of days ago a fourteen year old boy was crucified in the Christian neighborhood Albasra.

I have also spoken to a group of nuns that were robbed and treated brutally on their way between Baghdad to Amman in Jordan.

The murder of father Paulus is the final blow for Christians, and now only hell is expected for the Christians of Iraq.

We the oriental Christians in Sweden and the rest of the Western world must protest against the genocide. We must do what we can to stop the rape, threats, hatred, robberies, murders... We must do something.⁵⁹

The award winning Swedish journalist Nuri Kino⁶⁰ contacted the family of the crucified boy on behalf of AINA. He reported that the family was in shock and did not want to speak to anyone not only because of their intense grief, but *because they did not want to provoke additional violence*. The family intended to leave Iraq as soon as possible. So effective was the terror effect of the crucifixion that even the victim's family could not properly grieve for its son. The Assyrian community in al-Basra was terrified.

⁵⁸ <http://www.aina.org/guesteds/20060522114735.htm>

⁵⁹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20061012004656.htm>

⁶⁰ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070513172436.htm>

Imposing Islamic Law

Letters from Sadr Shiites

An undated letter issued by Muqtada al-Sadr's Mahdi army to Christians in Baghdad ordered Christian women to veil themselves or face grave consequences. The letter, obtained and translated by AINA on May 30, 2007⁶¹, stated that the Virgin Mary was not unveiled and so Christian women should not be unveiled. The letter ended with an ominous note that committees have been established to monitor the Christian populace and enforce the decree. Here is the Arabic letter:



Here is the translation:

The Legal Veil

Allah be praised, said in His perfect and noble book:
In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful
(And do not display yourselves like that of the times of ignorance) -- Affirmed Allah the Mighty
Surah Al-Ahzab -- Verse 33

⁶¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070529235134.htm>

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According to Ali, Prince of Believers (peace be upon him), he said, "We were with the Prophet (saas⁶²) and he said, Tell me what is best for women? The Prince of Believers said, when I went back to Fatima (peace be upon her) and told her about what the Prophet (saas) said to us, Fatima said: 'It is best for women not to see men and for the men not to see them.'"

And in the Noble Narrative (She who went out of her home adorned with finery and ornaments or scented with perfumes is under the cursing of Allah, angels and the people all together until she goes back home. Neither a religious duty nor a gift shall be accepted from her until she performs the ritual ablution.)

According to martyr Mohammad Mohammad Sadiq al-Sadr (Sacred be his noble secret): "Was the Virgin Mary (peace be upon her) unveiled so that Christian women be allowed to be unveiled? Was Fatima al-Zahra unveiled? And were the wives of the Caliphs in the First Caliphate or others unveiled? No and then no...Allah forbid and far be it from all of them."

Furthermore, His Eminence Mohammad al-Sadr prohibited self-adoration and not wearing the veil in a number of religious edicts, including:

Question: What is the punishment of the woman who does not commit to the legal veil?

Answer: In the name of the Supreme Being, She is an adulteress, and she even proclaims sinfulness, challenges and fights Allah and his Prophet and ignores and neglects religion. So what would be her fate but hell and that is best outcome for her?

Question: What measure should be taken against a woman who disobeys her father, husband, or her guardian by not committing to the legal veil?

Answer: In the name of the Supreme Being, they must order her in a courteous manner to abstain from the forbidden. If she refuses, he then must guide and educate her religiously in order to convince her. If she is not convinced still, then they must imprison her at home and do not expose her to the forbidden interaction with men.

Note: Based on this, special committees have been established to follow up on this matter and she who is warned is excused.

Preparation

The People's Foundation for the Master al-Mahdi Army.

Another letter possibly dated to May 14, 2003 (the year is unclear) is targeted at a specific Assyrian family:

⁶² Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam. This is an expression that Muslims use whenever the name of Prophet Muhammad is mentioned or written. The meaning of it is: "May the blessings and the peace of Allah be upon him (Muhammad).

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَلَا تُرْجَى تَبْرُجُ الْبَاهِلِيَّةِ (جهدت الله العظيم)

من قيادة قوات بدر الإسلامية

أبني لعائلة الكريمة

ترجو من رب هذه العائلة أن يقف مع الأفوان المساكين
في الجاه والتشرف واتباع القواعد الإسلامية التي أتبعها
المساكين في تقدم العصر. ومثت شعب العراق شعب
مسلم لا يقبل بالخطأ
وإن لم -

تبعوه وهذه برسالة أو النداء سوف يبدد منكم

① سير منكم ما لا يحل عقبا

② أقتك

③ الخطف

④ أمراء البيت وما فيه أو تفجير

كذلك موجه الأبنات العائلة أم الصفتين و

البيت الصغيرة

نه جف قواه يدر الإسلاميه
طه ران جد بانه الحمله الاسلاميه
الدعويه مجاهدته يدره

عائده
عائده
عائده

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Here is the translation:

In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful

(And do not display yourselves like that of the times of ignorance)—Affirmed Allah the Mighty

From the leadership of Islamic Badr Forces

To the noble family

We hope from the head of this family to stand with the Muslim Brotherhoods concerning the veil, honor and in following the Islamic principles that were practiced by Muslims in older periods. We the Iraqi people are Muslim people that do not tolerate sin.

If you did not follow the instructions in this letter or its proclamation, then we will set out to:

1. Embark on the unbearable
2. Kill
3. Kidnap
4. Burn the house including what is inside or bomb it

This is directed to the girls of the family, the mother of the two children and the little girl.

Copy to:

Islamic Badr Forces, Najaf

[The following is unclear, but possible] Tehran Badrjanah Islamic Campaign

[The following is unclear, but possible] Badr Fighting Propaganda

Signed

Badr Forces

12 Rabi' al-Awwal [3rd month of the Islamic Calendar], 14?? [Year not clear, possibly 1424.

Gregorian May 14, 2003 A.D.]

This letter seems to be written by someone who is not an Arab and/or someone whose native language is not Arabic, but by someone who reads and knows some Arabic from the Koran. Certain grammar or spellings used in the letter indicate a non-Iraqi or Arabic speaking native. Notice the spelling of the word "min-na" (meaning from us, which is written mistakenly on two occasions) and also notice the strange yet distinctive spellings of the cities of Najaf and Tehran, which indicate the author is possibly of Persian, Kurdish or Afghani origin.

Al-Qaeda in the Dora Assyrian Quarter

In early March, 2007 al-Qaeda moved into Dora, a predominantly Assyrian neighborhood in south Baghdad, and began imposing strict Islamic law. The Christian Assyrians were being forced to pay the *jizya*⁶³, the poll tax demanded by the Koran which all Christians and Jews must pay in exchange for being allowed to live and practice their faith as well as being entitled to 'Muslim protection' from outside aggression.

⁶³ The *jizya* has been collected since the arrival of Islam in 630 A.D. The last systematic collection was by the Ottomans (Turks), which came to an end only in 1918, when the Ottoman Empire was defeated and partitioned in World War One.

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Christian Assyrian wives were instructed to go to a certain mosque and pay, which they did out of fear. The stated reason for the payment was "we do the fighting and you pay to support."⁶⁴

The following testimony was obtained by AINA⁶⁵:

Baghdad Observer:

Elements of Al-Qaeda have moved into Dora from Anbar. No security forces are to be seen there, it seems to be abandoned by both Iraqi and Coalition. In Hay Al-Mechaneek (which is in Dora across the bridge) people have been warned by these insurgents to uninstall the satellite dishes since this is "Haram" (forbidden) in Islam. In Dora where christians live in Hay Al-Mualimeen [Teachers quarter] and Hay Al-Athorieen [Assyrian quarter] is where they are telling people to convert, leave, pay *Jizya* taxation.

Email From Dora Resident:

This has been going on for the past week, and it started even before Easter. We talked to many people within the American Embassy and Iraqi Government, but it seems no body really cares, because they have done nothing, or sometimes I wonder if they care at all. Neither the Iraqi nor the US army have any activity there, and they have delivered Dora to insurgents; and above all the US army went and put a camp in the Chaldean church (Babylon Theology College) to raise the hate among those Muslims toward Christians, as they are seeing them allies for Americans, and that worsen things more.

Testimony of Dora Resident, Currently A Refugee In Syria:

Yes it is true, today a family [name withheld] arrived from Dora/Mualimeen street, and they said some terrorists knocked on their door and when they opened the door they were told to either pay money (*jizya*) to support the insurgents or convert to Islam, or leave the house within 24 hours or else be killed.

Al-Qaeda's Hatem Al-Razaq, the sheik of the Al-Noor mosque in Dora, toured Dora, visiting each Assyrian family and instructing them to pay 250,000 Iraqi dinars (\$190), saying this sum is the *jizya* because "you are not Muslims." Families that could not pay this sum were told to send one family member to the mosque on Friday to announce their conversion to Islam. Families who refused to do this were told they must leave their homes immediately and not take any of their belongings with them because "your properties belong to the mosque."⁶⁶

On May 18 St. George Assyrian Church in Dora was firebombed. Families were abandoning their homes and seeking refuge in Churches:⁶⁷

- 14 families had fled to the Al-So'ud Chaldean Church.
- 7 families had fled to Saint Odisho Assyrian Church. 3 families were in the church and 4 in the Saint Adai Patriarchate, the old church building.
- An unknown number of families had fled to Saint George Chaldean Church.

⁶⁴ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070318132901.htm>

⁶⁵ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070417105313.htm>

⁶⁶ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070518111715.htm>

⁶⁷ *ibid*

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On May 6 the Patriarch for the Chaldeans, Emmanuel III Delly, strongly criticized the Iraqi authorities and foreign troops and called for decisive intervention from the government and international community to stop the hemorrhage of persecuted Christians from Iraq. "Christians are killed, chased out of their homes before the very eyes of those who are supposed to be responsible for their safety," he said.⁶⁸

On May 9 Patrirach Dinkha IV of the Assyrian Church of the East described as "inhuman" such acts perpetrated against Christians. He told Iraq's prime minister: "Muslim parties and groups that are perpetrating violent acts against Christians are far from Islam; so we ask the prime minister and MPs to take the necessary steps to stop the violence that is affecting all the sons of Iraq."⁶⁹

On May 18 Mar Addai II, the Patriarch of the Ancient Assyrian Church of the East, called on the Prime Minister and the Iraqi parliament to put an end to the tragic situation that Christians in Iraq are enduring due to the constant threats and attacks against them. He told the Catholic News Agency "Only the families that agree to give a daughter or sister in marriage to a Muslim can remain, which means that the entire nuclear family will progressively become Muslim." Also, Assyrian families are forced to turn over their homes as ransom for their kidnapped relatives.⁷⁰

For those Assyrians leaving Dora, Muslims were forcing them to pay an "exit fee" of \$200 per person and \$400 per car.⁷¹

On May 21st the Reverend Temathaus Eisha, pastor of the Church of St. Shimoni Dora, confirmed that the information published about the forced displacement of Christian Assyrians from their homes in the district was accurate. He added that the conditions were horrible, especially in the Al-Ta'ma, Al-iskan, Al-mo'alimeen, Al-shurTa, Al-sitten, and Asia neighborhoods. He added that the majority of Assyrians have abandoned these areas. He said that the other churches, such as St. Jacob, St. John, The Apostles Church, St. George, St. Zaya, Mar Mr. Bihnam, St. Mathew, as well as a number of monasteries, were all abandoned.⁷²

On June 4 St. Jacob Church, Near the Asia Neighborhood (Hay Asya) in Dora, was attacked and the Christian guards killed, the church was looted and would be turned into a mosque. St. John the Baptist Church near the Hay Al-Athoriyeen (Assyrian quarter) was also looted.⁷³

The attacks on Assyrians in Dora had by June 4th spread to Yarmouk, Qadisiya, and Mansour, where the *jizya* was being demanded.⁷⁴

In October, 2004 Islamic militants were knocking on the doors of Christian homes in Mosul, demanding money. They argued that since the Christians do not contribute weapons and do not fight, they must make a financial donation instead. This follows exactly the model of classical

⁶⁸ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070508105539.htm>

⁶⁹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070510124400.htm>

⁷⁰ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070518101254.htm>

⁷¹ *ibid*

⁷² <http://www.aina.org/news/20070521131857.htm>

⁷³ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070604130634.htm>

⁷⁴ *ibid*

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Islam, whereby Christians and Jews were excluded from fighting for the Islamic state but instead required to pay a special tax – *jizya* – to cover the costs of their protection.

Leaflets were distributed with the message: "Christians go; leave Iraq." Word was passed around in the mosques, telling Muslims not to buy anything from the Christians. Not only are they infidels, it was said, but also they would soon be leaving, so the Muslims would be able to take their homes and property for free.⁷⁵

Al-Qaeda had previously threatened Assyrians. The note shown on the right was delivered sometime before June 20, 2004 to an Assyrian working for the Coalition Provisional Authority.



⁷⁵ <http://www.aina.org/news/20041104150200.htm>

Deliberately Inflicting On the Group Conditions of Life Calculated To Bring About Its Physical Destruction in Whole or in Part

Attacks on Businesses

Assyrian businesses are systematically targeted and attacked, particularly businesses that are perceived to be "un-Islamic."

Because Islam prohibits the consumption and sale of alcohol, liquor stores are owned primarily by Assyrians. Liquor stores have been burned, looted and defaced in Mosul, Baghdad and Basra. Since 2003 approximately 95% percent of these stores have closed because of Islamic threats.⁷⁶ Store owners have been threatened, beaten and murdered. The following is an example:

In August 2004, masked gunmen shot and killed Sabah Macardige in Baghdad during broad daylight for selling alcohol. According to witnesses, Macardige had received warnings to stop selling liquor. In April, liquor store owner Sabah Sadiq's brother was kidnapped. Sadiq was shot on his way to pay the ransom demanded by the kidnappers. In June, armed intruders broke into Sami Tammu's liquor store in Baghdad and shot and killed him when he tried to escape.⁷⁷

A fatwa issued in May 2003 by Sheikh Mohammed al Fartousi, a Sadr Shiite, banned alcohol and other things:

The cinemas in Al-Saadun Street show indecent films. I warn them: if in a week they do not change, we will act differently with them. We warn women and the go-betweens who take them to the Americans: If in a week from now they do not change their attitude, the murder of these women is sanctioned [by Islam]. This warning also goes out to sellers of alcohol, radios and televisions.⁷⁸

Music stores are also targeted by Muslims. The case of Sargon, who fled to Jordan in early 2007, is typical:

Sargon, was known in Baghdad for his collection of both Arabic and English music. He ran a famous music store with an office on the second floor. The Shiite Mehdi militia forbade all music and sent a threatening letter to him. They demanded him to close the store. The first time he was threatened he did not take it seriously. The second time he was barely able to save his life. They pushed a wheel chair with a bomb towards him; he gave way and understood the same second that it was over and that he had to leave Iraq. He closed the store but continued to sell CDs and videos from his home. He was robbed and assaulted. The next day he applied for a passport, sold all he owned and took the bus to Amman. He even left all his clothes. "If we would be able to return we would have returned. But we do not have a chance. Maybe one day, but right now we are on the black list of the Islamists."⁷⁹

⁷⁶ U.S. State Department Iraq International Religious Freedom Report, 2005. <http://www.aina.org/reports/irfrIraq05.pdf>

⁷⁷ *ibid*

⁷⁸ Assimilation, Exodus, Eradication: Iraq's minority communities since 2003. Minority Rights Group International, 2007. <http://www.aina.org/reports/mrgi0702.pdf>

⁷⁹ Nuri Kino, *By God: Six Days in Amman -- The Plight Of The Iraqi Assyrian Christians in Jordan*, 2007. <http://www.aina.org/reports/bgsdia.pdf>

On September 7, 2005 at approximately 3 A.M. a major fire was started in the Assyrian district Dora. The fire damaged more than 500 shops in the Assyrian shopping district. Fire trucks did not arrive for hours and the shop owners, observing a curfew that mandated all to stay in their homes or else be shot, could only watch from their homes as their shops burned in flames. Arson was suspected.⁸⁰

Confiscation of Property

The 2007 report of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) describes Kurdish treatment of Assyrians in North Iraq:

Government complicity in religiously-motivated discrimination is also reported in the pro-Western Kurdish Regional Government (KRG). According to the State Department, Christians and other minorities "living in areas north of Mosul asserted that the KRG confiscated their property... without compensation and ... Assyrian Christians also alleged that the Kurdish Democratic Party-dominated judiciary routinely discriminates against non-Muslims." ChaldoAssyrian Christians have also alleged that KRG officials affiliated with the Kurdistan Democratic Party deny Christians key social benefits, including employment and housing.⁸¹

On May 31, 2007 Shiites occupied the Angel Raphael Convent, belonging to the Chaldean Sisters of the Scared Heart, in Dora, Baghdad and turned it into a base for military operations.⁸²

On October 8, 2002 the Kurdish Parliament of north Iraq adopted a resolution⁸³ on the formal and legal transfer of illegally expropriated Assyrian lands to their Kurdish squatters. The directive entitled "General Conditions for the Ownership of Illegally Obtained Lands" mandated the conditions necessary for official governmental land deeds to be granted to Kurdish squatters. According to the directive, all lands confiscated "prior to and until January 1, 2000" were targeted for ownership transfer. Both private and government owned lands were included in the resolution. The directive authorized a State Planning Board dominated by Kurds to oversee the surveying of the subject lands including urban areas and their surrounding villages. The directive authorized an appraisal of any occupied land and stipulated that no land may be appraised for less than 50 dinars per square meter (approximately 3 US dollars). The practical effect of the resolution was to legally transfer Assyrian lands that were illegally confiscated to Kurdish persons.⁸⁴

Targeting Villages

Assyrian villages are targeted by Kurds. The USCIRF report states:

Additional reports also alleged that foreign reconstruction assistance for ChaldoAssyrian communities was being controlled by the KRG without input from that community's legitimate leaders. KRG officials were also reported to have used public works projects to divert water and other vital resources from ChaldoAssyrian to Kurdish communities. These deprivations reportedly

⁸⁰ <http://www.aina.org/news/20050907133006.htm>

⁸¹ Annual Report of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, 2007,

<http://www.aina.org/reports/uscirf2007.pdf>

⁸² <http://www.aina.org/news/20070601151953.htm>

⁸³ <http://aina.org/releases/2002/landresolution.htm>

⁸⁴ <http://www.aina.org/releases/finalsolution.htm>

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threatened the safety of ChaldoAssyrians leading to mass exodus, which was later followed by the seizure and conversion of abandoned ChaldoAssyrian property by the local Kurdish population. Turkmen groups in the region surrounding Tel Afer also report similar abuses by Kurdish officials, suggesting a pattern of pervasive discrimination, harassment, and marginalization. Combined with non-state sources of instability, including violence from foreign jihadis and Sunni insurgents, the KRG's practices add to the continuing flight of Iraq Christians and other ethnic and religious minorities to sanctuaries outside the country.

The report makes these recommendations:

Declare and establish a proportional allocation of foreign assistance funding for ChaldoAssyrian, Yazidi, Sabaen Mandeian, and other religious minority communities, ensure that the use of these funds is determined by independent ChaldoAssyrian or other minority national and town representatives, and establish direct lines of communication by such independent structures into the allocation process of the Iraqi national government in Baghdad, separate from the KRG, in order to ensure that U.S. assistance benefits all religious and ethnic minority groups and is not being withheld by Kurdish officials or other local and regional governments;

Address with regional Kurdish authorities the reports of attacks on religious and other minorities and the expropriation of ChaldoAssyrian property, and seek the return of property or restitution, as well as assurances that there will be no official discrimination practiced against minority communities; and

Collaborate with Iraqi and KRG officials to establish an independent commission to examine and resolve outstanding land claims involving ChaldoAssyrian and other religious minorities in the Kurdish regions.

On August 25, 1999 armed men of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) imposed a blockade against a string of eight Assyrian villages in the Nahla area of northern Iraq. Earlier in August, the KDP had ordered the villagers not to transport any food into the villages under threat of force. Having no other viable recourse, the villagers appealed to United Nations (UN) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) monitors in northern Iraq to intervene on the Assyrians' behalf. The UN and the ICRC demanded a lifting of the blockade against the Assyrian villages because a portion of provisions directly originated from the UN "oil for food" Resolution 986 program. In order not to appear to be in defiance of a UN resolution, the Kurds temporarily relented. But intimidation and on again off again blockades continued despite UN protests.

Following the initially successful UN and ICRC intervention, armed KDP men continued their campaign of terror against the Assyrian villages. On the night of August 27 and 28, the Kurds besieged the village of Kash Kawa and indiscriminately fired automatic weapon rounds upon Assyrian homes. No Assyrians were harmed by the shots although livestock were killed and property was damaged. The armed KDP operatives subsequently entered the village intimidating the inhabitants. Residents of the village were pulled from their homes in the middle of the night and gathered into a group. Mindful of previous Kurdish atrocities, women and children cried in horror and fear. Two Assyrian men, Mr. Samir Daniel and Mr. Yonadam Moshe were singled out from the crowd and severely beaten upon their heads with butts of rifles, leading to concussions and severe external hemorrhaging – all before terrified women and children.⁸⁵

⁸⁵ <http://www.aina.org/releases/blockade.htm>

Forcibly Transferring Children of the Group to Another Group

June, 2007

According to an Iraqi government employee, in the Hay al-Amiriya quarter a Sunni "Amir" (prince) demanded the car belonging to an Assyrian brother and sister who are orphans; their priest advised them to give up the car, which they did. The "prince" later returned and officially asked for the girl's hand in marriage. The girl had to go into hiding.⁸⁶

May, 2007-06-04

In Dora, a predominantly Assyrian neighborhood in south Baghdad, an al-Qaeda "prince" instructed the Christian Assyrians to surrender women to the mosque. In a report by the Catholic News Agency, Mar Addai II, the Patriarch of the Ancient Assyrian Church of the East, says "Only the families that agree to give a daughter or sister in marriage to a Muslim can remain, which means that the entire nuclear family will progressively become Muslim."⁸⁷

September 16, 1996

Witnesses in North Iraq said that a group of armed PKK Kurdish guerillas abducted a fifteen-year-old Assyrian girl named Ahlam Patrus Nissan from her village. Local farmers and others who witnessed the kidnapping said they saw the girl being carried off with an expression of fear on her face. The PKK admitted that they had the girl but they claim she joined them willfully. They have refused to allow anyone to speak to her. She was forced to marry her kidnapper and convert to Islam.⁸⁸

January 20, 1996.

13 year-old Janet Oshana, from the village of Mulla-Urab, near the town of Zakho, was kidnapped by a Kurd, Khorshid Othman Kalash. She was never returned to her parents.⁸⁹

January 13, 1996

Wasan Mishael, a 16 year-old Assyrian girl from Simele, was kidnapped at gunpoint from her home. Under extreme emotional and physical pressure and abuse, she was forced to denounce her Christian religion and marry one of her kidnapers.⁹⁰

1993

Mr. Lazar Mati daughter, 15, was kidnapped by a Kurd named Mohamed Babakir and forced to marry him and convert to Islam.⁹¹

⁸⁶ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070604130634.htm>

⁸⁷ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070518101254.htm>

⁸⁸ <http://www.aina.org/releases/pkk.htm>

⁸⁹ <http://www.aina.org/releases/cases.htm>

⁹⁰ <http://www.aina.org/releases/cases.htm>

⁹¹ <http://www.aina.org/releases/murder.htm>

Appendix 1
List of Murdered Assyrians

The following is a list of murdered Assyrians in reverse chronological order.

2010

August 27, 2010: Mosul, 1 murdered.

Luay Barham al-Malik was abducted and killed in northern Iraq after his family ⁹²had paid his kidnappers 15,000 dollars as a ransom for his release.

June 7, 2010: Mosul, 1 murdered.

Hani Salim Wadi was killed Monday night in Kirkuk. Wadi was married with a daughter. Eyewitnesses said that he was shot in front of his house in a targeted killing.

May 2, 2010: Mosul, 4 murdered.

Two busses carrying Assyrian university students were bombed at a check point in Mosul, killing four and injuring more than 170.⁹³



Sandy S. Zahrak, killed in the bus bombing

Radeef H. Al-Aahruk, killed in the bus bombing

March 17, 2010: Mosul, 1 murdered.

Sabah Jacob Adam, 55, married and father of a child, was shot and killed by an armed commando.⁹⁴

⁹² <http://www.aina.org/news/20100827220511.htm>

⁹³ <http://www.aina.org/news/20100504194249.htm>

⁹⁴ <http://www.aina.org/news/20100317201629.htm>

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February 20, 2010: Mosul, 3 murdered.

Gunmen entered the house of Aishwa Maroki, 59, and killed him and his two sons -- Mokhlas, 31, and Bassim, 25.⁹⁵

February 20, 2010: Mosul, 1 murdered.

Adnan al-Dahan, 57, was found with bullet wounds to his head in the northern Mosul district of al-Belladiyat. He had been kidnapped from his grocery shop the week before in the neighborhood of Al-Habda, also in northern Mosul.⁹⁶

February 17, 2010: Mosul, 1 murdered.

The bullet-riddled body of Wissam George, a 20-year-old Assyrian Christian, was recovered on a street in the south Mosul residential neighbourhood of Wadi al-Ain.⁹⁷

February 16, 2010: Mosul, 1 murdered.

Zia Toma, a 21-year-old engineering student, was killed and Ramsin Shmael, a 22-year-old pharmacy student, wounded.⁹⁸

February 15, 2010: Mosul, 1 murdered.

Rayan Salem Elias, a Chaldean Christian who ran a business dealing in a traditional meat dish, was killed outside his home in East Mosul.⁹⁹

February 14, 2010: Mosul, 1 murdered.¹⁰⁰

Fatukhi Munir, an Assyrian Catholic, was gunned down inside his shop in a drive-by shooting.

January 17, 2010: Mosul, 1 murdered.

Saadallah Yosfif Jorjis, 52, was shot and killed. He owned a small fruit and vegetable stand. He had two daughters and his wife was a nurse.¹⁰¹

January 12, 2010: Mosul, 1 murdered.

The owner of a small grocery store, Hikmat Sleiman, 75, was killed.¹⁰²

⁹⁵ <http://www.aina.org/news/20100223204557.htm>

⁹⁶ <http://www.aina.org/news/20100220114044.htm>

⁹⁷ <http://www.aina.org/news/20100217223828.htm>, <http://www.aina.org/news/20100217223637.htm>

⁹⁸ <http://www.aina.org/news/20100216185803.htm>

⁹⁹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20100215222631.htm>

¹⁰⁰ *ibid.*

¹⁰¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20100118130734.htm>

¹⁰² *ibid.*

2009

December 15, 2009: Mosul, 1 murdered.

Zaid Majid Yusuf, 30, was walking to his home after parking his car when he was shot from a car that drove in front of his house. The gunman got out of the car to make sure that Zaid was dead.¹⁰³

October 5, 2009: Kirkuk, 1 murdered.

Businessman Imad Elia was kidnapped on October 2. His body was found three days later in the al-Hai al-Askari neighbourhood of Kirkuk with gunshots and knife wounds. Authorities believe the captors kept shooting into his body after he was dead.¹⁰⁴

May 11, 2009: Mosul, 1 murdered.

Tony Adwar Shaweel, 5 years old, was kidnapped on March 5, 2009 by an unknown group who demanded a ransom of \$50,000. His bullet riddled body was discovered on May 11.¹⁰⁵

April 26, 2009: Kirkuk, 2 murdered.

In separate attacks within minutes of each other, gunmen burst into the homes of two Assyrians. Yusef Shaba, an employee of Iraq's Northern Oil Company, was shot and killed and his two sons, Bassel and Samer were wounded. Other gunmen burst into the home of Mouna Latif Daoud, killed her and wounded her daughter before stabbing both women.¹⁰⁶

April 1, 2009: Baghdad, 3 murdered.

Nimrud Khuder Moshi, Glawiz Nissan and Hanaa Issaq were killed in Dora, Baghdad.¹⁰⁷
Sabah Aziz Suliman was killed in Kirkuk.¹⁰⁸

January 16, 2009: Mosul, 1 murdered.

36 year old Chourik Bagrad was killed execution style, with multiple gunshots to the head. His body was discarded in the al-Bakr district, in the east of the city.¹⁰⁹

2008

December 12, 2008: Mosul. 3 murdered.

Three Assyrians were shot and killed in Mosul.¹¹⁰

¹⁰³ <http://www.aina.org/news/20091220132538.htm>

¹⁰⁴ <http://www.aina.org/news/20091005120855.htm>, <http://www.aina.org/news/20091005125055.htm>

¹⁰⁵ <http://www.aina.org/news/20090513145648.htm>

¹⁰⁶ <http://www.aina.org/news/20090426204130.htm>

¹⁰⁷ <http://www.aina.org/news/2009040319921.htm>

¹⁰⁸ *ibid.*

¹⁰⁹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20090117124407.htm>

¹¹⁰ <http://www.aina.org/news/20081221201929.htm>

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November 12, 2008: Mosul. 2 murdered.

Two sisters, Sabih and Walaa Saloha, were killed. The first was shot while waiting for the bus, the second after the gunmen broke into their home and set explosives in it. Their mother was also shot and seriously injured. The home was destroyed by the explosives.¹¹¹

October 14, 2008: Mosul. 13 murdered.

13 Assyrians were killed between September 1 and October 13, in a wave of violence that drove 1000 families out of Mosul.¹¹²

October 8, 2008. Mosul. 3 murdered.

Three Assyrians were killed in one day. A father and his son were shot in their workplace. An assistant pharmacist was killed while working in a pharmacy.¹¹³

October 8, 2008. Mosul. 2 murdered.

Hazim Thomaso Youssif, 40, was killed in front of the clothing store he owned, while 15-year-old Ivan Nuwya was shot to death in the neighborhood of Tahrir, outside of his house in front of the local mosque of Alzhara.¹¹⁴

October 6, 2008. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Ziad Kamal, a 25-year-old disabled shop owner, was taken by an armed group from inside his store and brought to a nearby spot, where he was shot to death.¹¹⁵

September 2, 2008. Mosul. 1 murdered.

65-year-old doctor, Tariq Qattan, was kidnapped by a Muslim group. His family had paid a ransom of \$20,000 dollars, but it was not enough to secure his release.¹¹⁶

August 31, 2008. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Nafi Haddad was kidnapped and killed. It is unknown if a ransom was paid.¹¹⁷

¹¹¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20081112142700.htm>, <http://voanews.com/english/2008-11-12-voa12.cfm>

¹¹² <http://www.aina.org/news/20081013201110.htm>, <http://www.aina.org/news/20081012160804.htm>,
<http://www.aina.org/news/20081011144600.htm>

¹¹³ <http://www.aina.org/news/20081008031508.htm>

¹¹⁴ <http://www.aina.org/news/20081008153812.htm>

¹¹⁵ *ibid*

¹¹⁶ <http://www.aina.org/news/20080902145953.htm>

¹¹⁷ <http://www.aina.org/news/20080902145953.htm>

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March 13, 2008. Mosul. 4 murdered.

Archbishop Paulus Faraj Rahho was kidnapped on February 29 in Mosul. His body was found on March 13. Three traveling companions, Faris, Rami, and Samir, were killed at the time of the kidnapping.¹¹⁸



Archbishop Paulus Rahho

2007



Zuhair Youssef Astavo Kermles

June 27, 2007. Mosul. 2 murdered.

Zuhair Youssef Astavo Kermles, 49, and Luay Solomon Numan, 21, from the National Union of Beth Nahrain, were killed in a drive by shooting.¹¹⁹



Luay Solomon Numan

June 19, 2007. Mosul. 2 murdered.

Two unidentified Assyrians were murdered by a group of men, in the same area where Fr. Ganni and three deacons were killed.¹²⁰

June 17, 2007. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Fouad Salim, a policeman, was killed in Baghdad as he left his work at a police station in Razaliyah. His family believes he was murdered by Shiite militants within the police force. Before his death, he had confided to his family that he was receiving anonymous threats that he would be killed if he refused to convert.¹²¹

June 3, 2007. Mosul. 4 murdered.

Fr. Ragheed Ganni, Deacon Basman Yousef Daud, Deacon Wahid Hanna Isho, Deacon Gassan Isam Bidawed of the Holy Spirit Church were killed by a hail of bullets from a group of gunmen. The four had finished mass at 7.30 PM and were driving away in the priest's car when they were intercepted, about 100 meters from the church, by a car; four men got out and shot them. Their car was booby trapped to prevent the retrieval of the bodies.¹²²



Fr. Ragheed Ganni

May, 2007. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

An Assyrian Iraqi officer training police cadets was stoned to death by the cadets when they learned their trainer was a Catholic.¹²³

May 28, 2007. Baghdad. 2 murdered.

¹¹⁸ <http://www.aina.org/news/20080229154859.htm>, <http://www.aina.org/news/20080313145414.htm>

¹¹⁹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070627140517.htm>

¹²⁰ <http://www.asianews.it/index.php?!=en&art=9615&size=A>

¹²¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070627133905.htm>

¹²² <http://www.aina.org/news/20070603143027.htm>

¹²³ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070618172229.htm>

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An Assyrian couple that worked for the US embassy in Baghdad has been killed by an al Qaeda-led group. The couple's car was stopped and the husband was abducted while the terrorists screamed "you filthy Christian traitor." When the wife, Amal, attempted to deliver the ransom to the kidnapers, described as a Sunni group, she was killed.

The self-styled "Islamic State of Iraq" said in a statement published on the Internet "God's ruling has been implemented against two of the most prominent agents and spies of the worshippers of the Cross...a man and woman who occupy an important position at the U.S. embassy...The swords of the security personnel of the Islamic State of Iraq...are with God's grace slitting the throats of crusaders and their aides and lackeys."¹²⁴

April 26, 2007. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Sargon Ashur, a member of the Assyrian Democratic Movement, passed away after spending two weeks in a coma. He was ambushed, fired upon and hit on the head while on his way to work. Sargon was married and had a girl Oryana, 4, and a son Mattai (Matthew), 1.¹²⁵



Sargon Ashur

April 23, 2007. Telskuf, North Iraq. 10 dead, 140 injured.

A car bomb exploded today at 9:30 AM in the the Assyrian village of Telskuf, in the Nineveh Plain of North Iraq. The car bomb exploded in the middle of the village market, in front of the social club near the elementary school.¹²⁶

March 27, 2007. Kirkuk. 2 murdered.

Two elderly sisters, both Chaldean Catholic nuns, Fawzeyiah Naoum, 85, and her 79-year-old sister Margaret, were stabbed multiple times by two intruders, who raided their home Monday night near the Cathedral of the Virgin in Kirkuk. They lived alone and there was no sign of a robbery.¹²⁷

February 26, 2007. Baghdad 1 murdered.

Architect Walid Abd al-Ahad was killed in al-Nidhal Street while on his way to work.¹²⁸

February 25, 2007. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Bassam Jamil Mansour Breekho was killed in Baghdad from a bomb explosion at the Administrative and Economy College, University of Mustansiriyya.¹²⁹

February 12, 2007. Mosul. 1 murdered.

¹²⁴ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070602131612.htm>

¹²⁵ <http://www.zowaa.org/news/ns7/n260407-7.htm>

¹²⁶ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070425232219.htm>

¹²⁷ <http://www.aina.org/news/2007032791913.htm>

¹²⁸ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.78402.0.html>

¹²⁹ <http://www.karemlash4u.com>

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Goldsmith Haitham H. M. Ghazala was murdered in Mosul.¹³⁰

February 5, 2007. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Deacon Abd al-Khaliq Bakos Mussa Qaryo was murdered after he was kidnapped. Despite paying the ransom, the kidnappers decided to kill him.¹³¹

February 4, 2007. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Firas Sabah Aboosh Momeeka was killed when a car bomb exploded in the al-Sadriyya quarter of Baghdad.¹³²

February 4, 2007. Baghdad. 2 murdered.

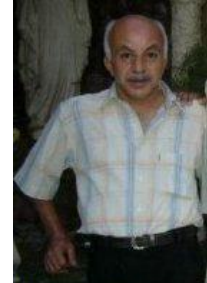
Two months after his kidnapping, the body of Faris Daniel was found and identified. Faris and Shakeep Poulus were kidnapped together. The body of Shakeep was found earlier.¹³³

January 31, 2007. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Mr Isaac Esho Alhelani, a high ranking Assyrian official of the Iraqi Airways was gunned down by unknown assassins near his home in Mekanik, Dora.¹³⁴

January 18, 2007. Khalis, North Iraq. 1 murdered.

An Assyrian newspaper distributor was murdered in North Iraq. Mr. Warda Slewo, whose territory ranged from Baghdad to the Assyrian plains in Nineveh, North Iraq, was murdered on January 18 as he was returning to Baghdad. Mr. Warda was born in 1955 and left behind a wife and four children, two boys and two girls, the oldest being 14 years.¹³⁵



Haitham H. M. Ghazala

January 16, 2007. Mosul. 2 murdered.

Two brothers, Wisam and Nasir Banni, were murdered in front of their home in the al-Hadba' quarter of northern Mosul. A group of armed men fired at the two brothers while they were standing in front of their home.¹³⁶

January 16, 2007. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Malek Mansour Behnam Hanna was kidnapped and murdered three days later.¹³⁷

¹³⁰ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.76459.0.html>

¹³¹ <http://www.bakhdida.com>

¹³² <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.75623.0.html>

¹³³ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.75629.0.html>

¹³⁴ <http://www.aina.org/news/2007020791201.htm>

¹³⁵ <http://www.aina.org/news/20070123194627.htm>

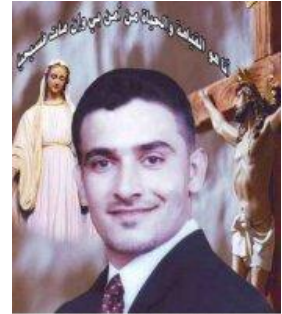
¹³⁶ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.73102.0.html>

¹³⁷ <http://www.karemlash4u.com>

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January 16, 2007. Mosul. 1 murdered.

An armed group attacked Sargon Sabah Yacoub and his family while they were on their way to Baghdad to visit relatives. Sargon (b. 1979) was killed. His wife Zeena and son Fadi were critically injured.¹³⁸



Sargon Sabah Yacoub

January 05, 2007. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Mardon Matrood's nephew was killed by kidnappers after the family was unable to pay the ransom. The body was found near a mosque in the Adhamiyah district (north Baghdad). It was "mangled, burned and tortured," Matrood said.¹³⁹

2006

December 13, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Ninos Potros Qoryaqos Al-Bazi, was killed when a huge explosion rocked a popular market in the area of New Baghdad.¹⁴⁰

December 06, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

A group of friends were conversing in front of a bakery were shot at by an armed group of men. Mikha Raheem, 56, was killed.¹⁴¹

November 30, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Fr. Mundhir al-Dayr of the Protestant Church in Mosul was found dead with a bullet in his head. He was abducted on November 26, 2006 and was found dead four days later. A message from the abductors demanded one million dollars as ransom or they will "kill all Christians starting with Fr. Al-Dayr."¹⁴²

November 29, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Haskial Isaac Benjamin al-Raikani (b. 1950) was shot and killed in front of his home in Dora, Baghdad as he attempted to move his family and belongings to northe Iraq. Al-Raikani was married with three sons and two daughters.¹⁴³

¹³⁸ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.72925.0.html>

¹³⁹ <http://electroniciraq.net/news/2794.shtml>

¹⁴⁰ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.68233.0.html>

¹⁴¹ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.67479.0.html>

¹⁴² <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.67216.0.html>

¹⁴³ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.66803.0.html>

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November 23, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Ishmael Behnam al-Qas Ishak was abducted and murdered 30 days later. His body was found at Baghdad's Institute of Forensic Medicine. He was married and a father of three children. Ishmael worked as a taxi driver on the Baghdad-Amman highway when he was abducted.¹⁴⁴

November 22, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

The head of al-Suryan Independent Assembly, Mr. Eshoo Majeed Hadaya, was shot and killed unknown assailants as he left the headquarters of his movement in Baghdeda, the Nineveh plain, north Iraq.¹⁴⁵

October 29, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Marvin Emmanuel Khazmi (b. 1984) was kidnapped. His body was found the next day at the mortuary with a bullet in the head. Marvin was a third year student at the University of Baghdad, College of Agriculture.¹⁴⁶

October 29, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Ziyad Abdulla Ajaj, 22, was murdered by a group of armed men as he left home in the morning to go to work in the Christian quarters of al Sa'aa.¹⁴⁷

October 21, 2006. Baquba. 1 murdered.

14 year old Christian Assyrian, Ayad Tariq, was decapitated at his work place. He was working his 12 hour shift, maintaining an electric generator, when a group of disguised Muslim insurgents walked in at the beginning of his shift shortly after 6 a.m. and asked him for his ID.

According to another employee who witnessed the events, and who hid when he saw the insurgents approach, the insurgents questioned Ayad after seeing that his ID stated "Christian", asking if he was truly a "Christian sinner." Ayad replied "yes, I am Christian but I am not a sinner." The insurgents quickly said this is a "dirty Christian sinner!" Then they proceeded to each hold one limb, shouting "Allahu akbar! Allahu akbar!" while beheading the boy.¹⁴⁸

October 11, 2006. Baquba. 1 murdered.

Dr. Joseph Fraidon Potros (b. 1950) was kidnapped from his office in Baquba General Hospital and murdered. Dr. Potros was a specialist in dermatology.¹⁴⁹



¹⁴⁴ <http://www.zahrira.net>

¹⁴⁵ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.65329.0.html>

¹⁴⁶ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.62397.0.html>

¹⁴⁷ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.62050.0.html>

¹⁴⁸ <http://www.aina.org/news/20061029141418.htm>

¹⁴⁹ <http://www.f21.parsimony.net/forum37811/messages/46276.htm>

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October 11, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.



Father Paulos Iskandar

Fr. Paulos Iskander (Paul Alexander) was kidnapped by an unknown Islamic group on October 9 and beheaded on October 11. His arms and legs were severed from his body.¹⁵⁰

October 10, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

The Bishop in Mosul reported that a fourteen-year-old boy was crucified in the Christian neighborhood of Basra (in Mosul).¹⁵¹

October 5, 2006. Baghdad. 13 murdered.

13 Christian women were kidnapped and killed because they did not wear the traditional Islamic veils.¹⁵²

October 04, 2006. Baghdad. 12 murdered, 56 injured.

A series of bombs exploded in rapid succession in a shopping district in the Assyrian Christian neighborhood of Camp Sarah in Baghdad, killing 12 people and wounding 56.

The known names of the deceased:

1. Thamir Giwargis
2. Fareed Elias
3. Falah Yousif Zarra, of Alqosh (member of the ChaldoAssyrian Syriac National Council Secretariat of Iraq).
4. Ghazwan
5. Fadi Aadil, of Batnaya
6. Husam, from Zakho
7. Abu Albert, Armenian
8. Zayd Farooq
9. Issac Edward Mirza, of Alqosh¹⁵³

October, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

An Assyrian toddler was kidnapped in Baghdad in October 2006. The mother, a Christian, could not pay the ransom and the young child was returned to her, beheaded, roasted and served on a mound of rice.¹⁵⁴

¹⁵⁰ <http://www.aina.org/news/20061012004656.htm>

¹⁵¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20061012004656.htm>

¹⁵² http://www.rferl.org/features/features_Article.aspx?m=10&y=2006&id=40228640-C96C-4881-BB37-375BD1346EFC

¹⁵³ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.58885.0.html>, New York Times, World, October 04, 2006

¹⁵⁴ http://www.themesopotamian.org/Barnabas_1206.pdf

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September 24, 2006. Baghdad. 2 murdered, 17 injured.

The Cathedral of the Virgin Mary of the Ancient Church of the East in Al-Riyadh neighborhood in Baghdad was bombed as worshipers were leaving the church after Sunday morning mass. Joseph Isho and an unidentified small boy were killed and 17 injured. Eyewitnesses stated that a bomb or hand grenade exploded under the car of the Church priest Father Ayzeria Warda, parked nearby the main gate. Immediately after that another, larger explosion occurred from a car bomb parked across the narrow street as the people gathered to check on the injured.¹⁵⁵



Funeral of victims of the Cathedral of the Virgin Mary bombing, on September 24, 2006, in Baghdad

September 21, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Assyrian police officer Ziad Waadallah Jamil was assassinated in Mosul in the area of al-Sa'aa. He was employed with the Nineveh police force and he was attacked by unknown assailants as he was leaving home to go to work. Officer Jamil was born in Mosul in 1981, he was single.¹⁵⁶

August 31, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Engineer Manaf H. Yousuf was killed by a bomb as he was returning home from work in the al-Baladiyat quarter of Baghdad. Yousuf was born in 1978 and originally from the town of Bersive, north Iraq.¹⁵⁷

August 17, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Ghassan E. Rofa Haido (b. 1968) was murdered outside Baghdad and in front of a crowd. He had put off his marriage for fear of being murdered.¹⁵⁸



Ghassan E. Rofa Haido

August 12, 2006. Mosul. 2 murdered.

Two Assyrian brothers, Akram Aprim Shlimon and Aziz Aprim Shlimon, were murdered while in their carpentry shop. They were milled broad daylight and in front of people. The killers escaped using the car belonging to the brothers.¹⁵⁹

¹⁵⁵ <http://www.gfbv.de/pressemit.php?id=665&PHPSESSID=76f03f41189f5ee5bb92bbb548a4e8b0>,

<http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic,57700.0.html>

¹⁵⁶ <http://www.nirgalgate.com>

¹⁵⁷ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic,55302.0.html>

¹⁵⁸ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic,52705.0.html>

¹⁵⁹ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic,51667.0.html>

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August 8, 2006. Dohuk. 1 murdered.

Akhiqar Gewargis Odisho (b. 1962) was shot at 8:00 p.m. while tending to his sheep. He was shot by a group of Kurdish militia, members of Kurdistan Democratic Party of Barazani. Sherdel Taher Khalid and two other unidentified Kurdish thugs were seen leaving the scene in their vehicle after the shooting. The three Kurds are from the Ekmala village, a neighboring village to Kondi Kosa where Mr. Akhiqar lived. Odisho died at Nohadra (Dohuk) hospital at 3:30 A.M. on August 9 from complications of his wounds. Odisho was married and had three daughters¹⁶⁰.

August 8, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Bassam Shimun Hakim, 33 was kidnapped in front of his large liquor shop in Baghdad. The kidnappers demanded a ransom for his safe release. They were paid \$30,000 in cash in addition to a BMW worth \$10,000 that was parked besides the business address where he was kidnapped. Bassam's dead body was discovered later by police in one of Baghdad's streets. Bassam was married with two children.¹⁶¹

July 21, 2006. Kirkuk. 1 murdered.

A car bomb exploded in al-Muhafada Street. Salwan Sabah Jabbar was killed and many others injured.¹⁶²

July 21, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

An unidentified Assyrian employee of the Ministry of Higher Education was shot and killed.



Salwan Sabah Jabbar

July 13, 2006. Kirkuk. 5 murdered.

A Nissan pickup truck exploded on the side of the road on Thursday morning near the Syoof area in the heavily Assyrian populated Arapha district. Four adults and a boy were killed, and seven wounded, some severely and critically. Police officer Johnny Warda was identified as one of the killed. One adult was unidentified because of severe burns to his entire body.

July 01, 2006. Kirkuk. 1 murdered.

A Christian who worked as a traffic warden was shot and killed on the streets of Kirkuk two days before his wedding.¹⁶³

¹⁶⁰ http://www.nirgalgate.com/asp/v_news.asp?id=2473, <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.51430.0.html>

¹⁶¹ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.51087.0.html>

¹⁶² <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.49255.0.html>

¹⁶³ Barnabas Fund, December 2006 Issue

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June 25, 2006. Bartella, North Iraq. 2 murdered, 13 injured.

The quiet town of Bartella, inhabited mostly by Syriac Orthodox Assyrians, was the target of a suicide bomber, who set himself off in front of SCIRI's headquarters. According to the Hamdaniya hospital chief, the blast killed two and wounded 13, a majority of which were civilians.¹⁶⁴



Victim of Bartillah blast



Ninos Shamuel Adam, 22

June 11, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Ninos Shamuel Adam (b. 1985) was killed in a bomb explosion in the al-Karrada district in central Baghdad.¹⁶⁵

June 07, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Rushid Noel Essa (b. 1976) was killed when a car bomb exploded in the al-Sina'aa quarter in Baghdad. Essa was a member of the ChaldoAssyrian Student and Youth Union. He lived in the Assyrian quarter of Dora.¹⁶⁶



Rushid Noel Essa

June 03, 2006. Karamles, Mosul. 1 murdered.

Rahima Elias Isha'ya, 33, originally from Karamles, was murdered by a group of armed men in the crowded commercial neighborhood of Dargazliyya. She owned a small business where she sold perfumes and make-up related merchandise. The gunmen fired their guns at Rahima while she was inside her shop.¹⁶⁷

June 03, 2006. Basra. 1 murdered.

An unidentified Christian engineer was shot and killed in front of his home. The man worked at the al-Najeebiyya Electrical Circuit in al-Ma'aqal.¹⁶⁸

May 30, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Ra'aad Yousif (b. 1976) was found murdered in the Industrial quarter in Mosul. Yousif was from Bartella, Nineveh Plains; he was married and had one child. Yousif owned a body building gym. Reports from Mosul indicate that the murder is suspected to be an act of revenge over the ownership of his gym as the decision of ownership was in his favor after public bidding for the gym. He was threatened by Kurds to withdraw his bid but he refused.¹⁶⁹

¹⁶⁴ <http://www.aina.org/news/20060625173528.htm>

¹⁶⁵ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.43708.0.html>

¹⁶⁶ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.42944.0.html>

¹⁶⁷ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.42357.0.html>

¹⁶⁸ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.42201.0.html>

¹⁶⁹ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.42240.0.html>

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May 25, 2006. Kirkuk. 1 murdered.

Police Captain Salam Mnati Yousif (b. 1956) was shot and killed at 2.30 P.M. while he was shopping with his wife.

May 17, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Abulkarim Hurmiz Bahoda was murdered in a hate crime incident.¹⁷⁰

April 26, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Yousif Odisho Giwargis al-Baylati (b. 1965) was shot and killed in the Assyrian quarter of al-Dawasa. Giwargis was an Iraq-Iran war veteran and was injured during that war.¹⁷¹

April 12, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

James Benyamin, an Assyrian resident of the New Baghdad district, was shot and killed by insurgents while working in Balad, about 20 miles east of Baghdad.

April 7, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Shimshon Awisha was murdered near the Assyrian Club in the Dora district as he was heading home. The killer stepped out from a car, walked towards Mr. Awisha, and shot him.¹⁷²

April 6, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Wasan Matti, sister of Fr. Wisam Matti of Mother of God Church, was killed from gunshots by an Islamic terrorist group. She was with her husband and 2-year-old daughter in their car returning home from a doctor's visit. Wasan was six months pregnant and would have celebrated her 30th birthday on April 18.¹⁷³

April 6, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Samson Awisha was shot and killed by five men as he was walking home. The same group of assailants had kidnapped Mr. Awisha's two children for ransom. After paying the ransom, Mr. Awisha's children were released and then quietly sent out of Iraq to Syria along with their mother for safety. The kidnappers had demanded that Mr. Awisha not take his children out of the country. After the murder, Mr. Awisha's family was threatened not to hold a funeral service lest the entire family be targeted. Mr. Awisha was laid to rest secretly and quietly, without a funeral.¹⁷⁴

¹⁷⁰ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.40576.0.html>

¹⁷¹ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php?PHPSESSID=687d5040ff54563b2926e66a8f89d476&topic=36820.0>

¹⁷² <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.34731.0.html>

¹⁷³ The Chaldean News Newspaper

¹⁷⁴ <http://www.aina.org/releases/2006069115922.htm>

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April 05, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Toma Hurmiz Toma al-Kanni was shot and killed by unidentified assailants as he was standing in his own front yard garden, in the al-Mansour quarter of Mosul.

March 07, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Sinan Abd al-Jabbar was kidnapped on Saturday, March 4) and murdered. His body was found thrown in Hay al-Tahrir quarter in Mosul as his family failed to pay the \$50,000 ransom. Sinan was married with one 5 month old baby.¹⁷⁵

February 27, 2006. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Mahir Toma Oshana (b. 1967) was killed by a car bomb minutes after he left his home. He was married and had three young children. His sister Linda Toma, who lives in Norway, verified what happened after receiving the sad news from her parents in Iraq.¹⁷⁶

February 24, 2006. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Ni'mat Mattai Jiddo was killed by fundamentalists in Mosul. Ni'mat was married with two children.¹⁷⁷

January 29, 2006. Baghdad/Kirkuk. 3 murdered.

Six churches in Baghdad and Kirkuk were bombed. In Baghdad, a car bomb detonated at 4:10 p.m. outside St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in the eastern Baghdad suburb of Sina'a. About 20 minutes later, another vehicle exploded outside the Anglican Church in eastern Baghdad's Nidhal area. The Churches of Mar Addai Catholic Church in al-Binook and St. Petros and Polous Orthodox Churches were bombed as well. Simultaneously, in the northern city of Kirkuk, the Church of the Virgin in Kirkuk was bombed at 4:30 p.m. That explosion came 15 minutes after another car bomb exploded outside St. Ephrem Orthodox Church. Three are confirmed dead, including Fadi R. Elias, 13 years old originally from Alqosh, and many wounded.¹⁷⁸

Unknown date. Baghdad. 3 murdered.

On January 31, 2006, al-Iraqiya Sat broadcasted a clip of an interrogator questioning a terrorist whom along three other terrorists named Jamal, Sabah, and Firas had kidnapped three women. The first was a Christian from Za'faraniyya. They raped her and then Jamal killed her. The second was a teacher, a Christian as well, in Diyala. She was raped and then Sabah killed her. The third was a Christian too and an employee at a clinic in al-Madaa'in (ancient Seleucia-Ctesiphon). She was raped as well and Jamal killed her after they raped her.¹⁷⁹

¹⁷⁵ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.30362.0.html>

¹⁷⁶ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.29435.0.html>

¹⁷⁷ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.29392.0.html>

¹⁷⁸ <http://www.aina.org/releases/20060207150230.htm>

¹⁷⁹ http://www.baqofa.com/forum/forum_posts.asp?TID=1767&PN=1

2005

December 12, 2005. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Police Officer Ivan Giwargis Zaia (b. 1976) was assassinated in al-Sina'aa Quarter in Mosul. He was married with one child.¹⁸⁰

December 2, 2005. Kirkuk. 1 murdered.

Sarmad Behnam Ibrahim (b. 1974), a member of the Assyrian Democratic Movement and an officer in the Kirkuk Police Department, was murdered while on duty.¹⁸¹



Funeral of one of the victims of the November 29, 2005. Mosul shooting

November 29, 2005. Mosul. 2 murdered, 2 wounded.

Gunmen in two cars opened fire on four members of the Assyrian Democratic Movement as they hung Iraqi election posters in Mosul, killing Yousif Nabil Ishmael (b. 1986) and Gewargis Brikha Youkhana (b. 1980); wounded were Simon Edmon Youkhana (b. 1983) and Milad Zakkar Mansour (b. 1987).¹⁸²

November 21, 2005. Baghdad. 4 murdered.

A group of armed men stormed a Christian home in East Baghdad's al-Ghadeer quarter, which has a Christian majority, and killed four Christian women in the house.¹⁸³

November 2, 2005. Kirkuk. 1 murdered.

On Wednesday, at approximately 5:00 p.m., a car bomb exploded near the Church of Mar Giwargis in the Assyrian quarter of Almas district in Kirkuk. 18-year-old Assyrian Sarmad Fadi Kamil was killed, and his father was injured in the explosion.¹⁸⁴

October 29, 2005. Kirkuk. 1 murdered.

Michael Seeron, executive director for the northern branch of the Iraqi Oil Company, was shot and killed at around 6:30 P.M.. A white Opel stopped in front of his house in the Almas District. Five armed Kurds were in the car. As a group stepped out and knocked on the door, others kept the car running. Michael opened the front door, the Kurds shot him four times in the chest. He was killed immediately. He had told his close friends that he was being threatened by

¹⁸⁰ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php/topic.20701.0.html>

¹⁸¹ <http://www.islamonline.net/English/News/2005-12/03/article05.shtml>,
http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2005/12.3.05/index_sat.php

¹⁸² <http://www.cnn.com/2005/US/11/29/tuesday/index.html>,
http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2005/11.30.05/index_wed.php#goodmorningassyrria

¹⁸³ <http://www.tebayn.com/TebaynArabic/index.asp?pageID=1&SID=709&Ln=En>

¹⁸⁴ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php?topic=16067.0>

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members of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), who had visited him at the company and asked him to quit his job and join the Kurdish party.
October 27, 2005. Tikrit. 1 murdered.

A group attacked an Assyrian family, killing Younan Gharib and seriously injuring his wife and brother-in-law. Younan had been staying in Syria because of the conditions in Iraq. He had decided to return to Baghdad, move to northern Iraq, and live there among his extended family in a village by the Iraqi-Turkish border.¹⁸⁵



Four security guards

October 17, 2005. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

A group of armed men entered the apartment of Nomat'eel Hasra, an Assyrian woman living in the New Baghdad district, in eastern Baghdad, and killed her.

September 22, 2005. Baghdad. 4 murdered.

In the Baghdad neighborhood, gunmen opened fire on a Nissan pickup truck that was carrying six Assyrian security guards assigned to protect Ms. Pascale Warda Esho, the former Iraqi Minister of Displacement and Migration. Ms. Warda was not harmed in this attack. The body guards were on their way to collect Ms. Warda Esho. Killed were Daniel Nissan Philipos and Ninos Nissan Philipos (brothers), Mahir Muneb Hanna Johnny Youkhanna David. Mr. Nabeel Matti, a commanding officer from Bartilla, was critically injured.¹⁸⁶

August 26, 2005. Bartella, North Iraq. 1 murdered, 1 wounded.

Two groups of Kurdish peshmergas in military uniforms began shooting near a gas station in Bartella. Nabil Akram Ammona (b. 1968, married with two children) was killed instantly and Mattai Shamoun Zora Sha'ya (b. 1950, married with four children) was hit in the head and died later at the hospital.¹⁸⁷



Mattai Shamoun Zora Sha'ya

August 14, 2005. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Ayad Dawood Gergis was driving to work when he was attacked and killed by unknown gunmen.¹⁸⁸

August 11, 2005. Kirkuk. 1 murdered.

Sa'aad Fouzi, 29, was kidnapped opposite Sonobor Hotel in al-Muhafada St. in Kirkuk. His body was found later stabbed

¹⁸⁵ <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php?topic=16141.0>

¹⁸⁶ <http://www.aina.org/news/20050923112027.htm>

¹⁸⁷ <http://www.aina.org/releases/20050829120706.htm>

¹⁸⁸ Associated Press

repeatedly and thrown in Kornish St. Sa'aad was an engineer in Northern Oil Company.¹⁸⁹

August 9, 2005. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Sargon Esho (b. 1983) was shot and killed in the Dora district, near Mar Zaia Church, as he was shopping for groceries.¹⁹⁰

August 8, 2005. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Anita Tyadors (Theodores), 21, a student in Nineveh Art Academy, was kidnapped and murdered, her body found in 'Akkab cemetery. Anita was kidnapped in the al-Zohoor quarter as she left an Internet Café. Up to ten assailants pistol-whipped her and threw her limp body into the trunk of one of the three cars. She was driven to a remote location where she was brutalized beyond recognition. All of the assailants jumped out of their vehicles and proceeded to beat her, then stab and knife her. She was bludgeoned and gored. The men shot at her lifeless body and finished the job with a resounding final bullet to the head.¹⁹¹



Anita Tyadors, 21

August 4, 2005. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Dr. Noel Petros Shammas Matti (b. 1962) was kidnapped by an unknown group. He was found dead the day after his abduction. Dr. Matti was born in the village of Bartilla; he was married and a father for two daughters. He was a lecturer at the Medical Institute of Mosul University and owned a pharmacy in the same city.¹⁹²

July 22, 2005. Baghdad. 1 murdered, 3 injured.

Salay Abdul Wahad was killed when gunmen fired on her car in Dora. Her husband of only one week was wounded, as well as her mother and driver Marcel Ishoo.¹⁹³



Marcel Ishoo

July 7, 2005. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

A unidentified Christian owner of a Liquor shop was killed. A car stopped in front of the store in al-Karrada quarter in central Baghdad, an armed man stepped out of the car, and began shooting at the owner, who was killed instantly.¹⁹⁴

¹⁸⁹ <http://www.zahrira.net>

¹⁹⁰ *ibid*

¹⁹¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20050913133655.htm>

¹⁹² <http://www.ankawa.com/forum/index.php?topic=5790.0>

¹⁹³ http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2005/7.23.05/index_sat.php#goodmorningassyrria

¹⁹⁴ <http://www.iraq4allnews.dk/viewnews.php?id=90021>

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July 3, 2005. Baghdad. 1 murdered, 1 injured.

Younadam Youkhana Shimun (b. 1963) was killed by unknown assailants. His son was injured in the attack. Mr. Shimun was married with two sons and a daughter.¹⁹⁵



Randy Robert Alexin

June 2, 2005. Kirkuk. 1 murdered, 2 injured.

Randy Robert Alexin, 5, was killed by a car bomb in the Arrapha Assyrian quarter. His parents were injured and brought to a nearby hospital. The funeral was held in St. George Church in the Almas quarter.¹⁹⁶

June 1, 2005. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Ghassan Fahmi (b. 1977), owner of Ghassan's D.J. and Recording business, in the al-Zuhoor quarter, was kidnapped by an unidentified group from his business. He was murdered and his body returned two hours later.¹⁹⁷



Laith Gabriel Hoodi

May 18, 2005. Mosul. 1 murdered, 1 injured.

Laith Zuhair Gibrael Hoodi (b. 1977) was killed instantly when a rocket hit his home in the al-Sukkar quarter in Mosul. His mother I'atimad abd al-Ahad was received shrapnel wounds in her arms, legs, and other parts of her body.¹⁹⁸

April 24, 2005. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Ishaq Habib Kola (b. 1953) was killed when by a bullet aimed at him while he was inside his home in Dora. Ishaq worked in the medical field for some 25 years. He was married with 4 children. His father was visiting the family when the murder took place and Ishaq passed away in the arms of his aged father.¹⁹⁹

March 27, 2005. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Kifah Mattai Ibrahim (b. 1962) was found murdered in Mosul. He was kidnapped on March 3. He was married. He ran his own stone factory business in Mosul.²⁰⁰

March 23, 2005. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Karim Elia Abouna, an Assyrian from Alqosh, was murdered in the Assyrian quarter of Dora. An armed group of men entered his shop and shot him five times. He was killed instantly.²⁰¹

¹⁹⁵ Assyrian Democratic Movement Weekly News

¹⁹⁶ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=4370>

¹⁹⁷ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=4357>

¹⁹⁸ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=26&topic=586>

¹⁹⁹ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=3955>

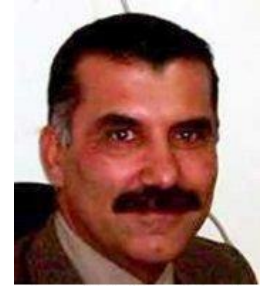
²⁰⁰ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=3633>

²⁰¹ <http://www.ankawa.com>

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March 16, 2005 Kirkuk. 1 murdered.

General Wael Yousif Yacoub was assassinated while returning home from Baghdad. According to eyewitnesses, armed men surrounded the general's car and began shooting; he was killed instantly. General Yacoub worked as an officer in the Internal Affairs Department of the Kirkuk Police. He was credited with the re-opening of the Kirkuk police force after the fall of Saddam Hussein. General Yacoub represented the Christians' voice in the affairs dealing with the local Police Board and was an ex-officer in the Iraqi army. General Yacoub was also a deacon (shamasha) at the Chaldean Catholic Cathedral in Kirkuk and considerably respected in his community. General Yacoub had been openly criticizing the Kurdish position on the ownership of the city of Kirkuk. Ansar al-Sunna army announced its responsibility for the killing.²⁰²



General Wael Yousif Yacoub

March 15, 2005. Basra. 2 murdered, 15 injured.

Some 30 members Muqtada al-Sadr's al-Mahdi Army attacked a group of Assyian engineering College students of Basra University. The students were having a picnic at al-Andalus Park in downtown Basra when a hooded gang attacked in the name of Islam and began to beat them with batons and sticks. Zahra Ashor was killed and fifteen others students were badly injured. When a fellow student attempted to help Zahra, he was shot in the head. At least 20 students were kidnapped and taken to Sadr's office in al-Tuwaisa for 'interrogation' and were released late at night. The gang stole the student's belongings, including telephones and jewelry, and destroyed the tape recorder they were using to listen to music along with many tapes. The attacks were because the female students were not wearing the Islamic hijab (veil) and because the students were listening to music.²⁰³

2004

December 11, 2004. Mosul. 2 murdered.

The bodies of Sabah Hurmiz (married with three children) and Saalim Potrus Daddaya (married with two children) were recovered at one of Mosul's hospital. They had been kidnapped three days earlier.²⁰⁴

December 9, 2004. Baghdad. 2 murdered.

Fawzi Soorish Luqa (b. 1961) and the Haitham Yousuf Saka were kidnapped and murdered. They owned a hall used for celebrations in Baghdad.²⁰⁵

²⁰² http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2005/3.16.05/index_wed.php#goodmorningassyrria

²⁰³ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=32&topic=1907>

²⁰⁴ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2424>

²⁰⁵ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2399>

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December 8, 2004. Ramadi. 1 murdered.

Dr. Ra'aad Augustine Qoryaqos was murdered. Three men stormed his clinic while he was checking on his patients. They shot him and left him bleeding. An operation later failed to save his life. Dr. Qoryaqos was married with two children. Dr. Qoryaqos worked as a professor at the College of Medicine in al-Anbar University and was a successful surgeon.²⁰⁶

December 2, 2004. Mosul. 1 murdered.

The body of Laith Antar Khanno, 29, was found near Mosul Hospital in the al-Wahda quarter, east of Mosul. His body was found first and the head was found later at some distance from the body. Khanno was kidnapped two weeks prior and the kidnappers asked first for a ransom of \$1,000,000 then dropped the figure to \$100,000; however, his family could not pay this large amount of money. Khanno had worked for a foreign company in Baghdad and had traveled to Mosul to open a branch there. Khanno was married with one daughter.²⁰⁷

November 30, 2004. Salah-al-Din. 1 murdered.

Sabih Mousa Abada (b. 1949) was killed when a car bomb exploded on a side road in Baiji. Abada worked as a driver at Baiji refinery. He had stopped to assist a stalled school bus. Abada was a resident of the Assyrian town of Baghdeda. He was married with five boys and three girls.²⁰⁸

November 21, 2004. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Essarhadon Elia al-Qas Oraham (b. 1977) was killed near al-Mashriq Club in Camp Sara quarter at about 8:00 P.M. He was married with a 2-year daughter.²⁰⁹

November 19, 2004. Mosul. 2 murdered.

Brothers Muntadir As'aad Matti and Bashar As'aad Matti were killed by a mortar shell that hit their shop located in the Mosul Market.²¹⁰

November 4, 2004. Falluja. 1 murdered.

Dr. Nadia Hanna Murqos was killed in her car while returning from Syria. Her husband and son were injured in the attack on their car.²¹¹

²⁰⁶ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2397>

²⁰⁷ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2329>

²⁰⁸ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2325>

²⁰⁹ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2256>

²¹⁰ <http://www.bartella.com>

²¹¹ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2123>

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November 2, 2004. Baghdad. 2 murdered.

Alaa Andrawis (b. 1965) and his 10-year old son were shot and killed in in their car. His wife Evelyn Malkizdaq, severely injured in her head and was transferred to a hospital. The couple had three children; the oldest 12 years old.²¹²

October 30, 2004. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Ma'an Yousuf was shot and killed in his electrical supplies shop on Dawasa Street. Three men, two masked and one unmasked, entered his shop at 7:30 P.M. Yousuf was shot three times in the head by the unmasked man.²¹³

October 25, 2004. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Nasrin Shaba Murad, 42, was shot and killed by four men who entered her home in the 17 July quarter. She was shot as she attempted to flee to her neighbor's home. She was a mother of three.²¹⁴



Nasrin Shaba Murad

October 21, 2004. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Layla Elias Kakka Essa, 30, was shot in the head multiple times as she return from her job as a translator in the Assyrian quarter of Dora. She left behind a boy and a daughter, Manar and Mina.²¹⁵

October 21, 2004. Baghdad. 2 murdered.

Yasmin Boodagh and her daughter were killed in Dora by car bomb.²¹⁶

October 14 2004. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Islamic extremists broke into a Chaldean Catholic and killed a 10-year-old boy because he was a Christian.²¹⁷

October 5, 2004. Mosul. 2 murdered.

Fadi Khidir Shamoon, 15, was kidnapped at noon while riding his bicycle; he was mutilated, beheaded and his body burned and dumped on the Ba'asheeqa-Teez Kharab road in front of al-'Azzawi ranch.

Julian Afram Yacoub, 14, was hit on the head with a concrete block and his body burned²¹⁸.

²¹² <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2102>

²¹³ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2078>

²¹⁴ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2019>

²¹⁵ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2029>

²¹⁶ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=2102>

²¹⁷ U.S. State Department Iraq International Religious Freedom Report, 2005

²¹⁸ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=1855>

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October 4, 2004. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Hazim Sako and his family were shot in their liquor store the Assyrian Dawasa district. He passed away soon at the hospital.²¹⁹

October 2004. Mosul. 4 murdered.

Dr. Sanabel Noel Al-Tabakh was killed in al-Wahda district of the city of Mosul while on her way to work.

Taghreed Abd al-Masih Ishaq and her sister Hala, social service workers were killed in Mosul. Tara Majeed Putrus, social service worker was shot in Mosul.

September 27, 2004. Baghdad. 9 murdered.

Nine Assyrians were killed a bus carrying employees of the Baghdad Hunting Club (Nadi al-Sayd) was attacked by unidentified armed men, in the early hours of the morning as the employees had left work and on their way home. Killed were Aamer Nissan (b. 1968), Aadel Nissan (b. 1972), Amer Khoshaba (b. 1965), Emanuel Nissan (b. 1945), Maradona Emanuel (b. 1984), Na'aem Gewargis (b. 1978), Bassam Elias (b. 1982), Rasim Elias (b. 1984), and Amir Shabo.²²⁰

September 10, 2004. Mosul 1 murdered, 2 injured.

Mark Louis Sheeto, 13, was killed when a barrage of mortars was fired on the Assyrian town of Bakhdeda. A mortar landed on the roof where Mark and his mother (Bushra) and brother (Bihnam, 8) were sleeping. Bushra and Bihnam were seriously injured.²²¹



Mark Louis Sheeto's rooftop bed

September 2, 2004. Mosul. 2 murdered.

Khaled Boulos, 32, and his brother Hani Boulos, 28, were murdered at noon in the Al-Sa'a district. A car carrying a group of men drove up to the Boulos brothers, the men came out of the car and began firing heavily at them, killing them instantly.²²²

September 1, 2004. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Mr. Nisan Sliyo Shmoel, 43, of the Assyrian Patriotic Party, was attacked and injured by unknown assailants. He was taken to the hospital where he was treated and released. The

²¹⁹ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=1852>

²²⁰ Agence France Presse, <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=1795>

²²¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/20040911181922.htm>

²²² <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=1631>,
<http://f21.parsimony.net/forum37811/messages/31996.htm>

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assailants were awaiting his release and drove over him with their car as he left the hospital. He died instantly. He was married with 5 daughters and 1 son.²²³

September 2004. Mosul. 2 murdered.

Raymond Farooq Shimun and Firas Hadi Potrus (b. 1978, Mosul University graduate) were beheaded. A CD showing the beheading was distributed in Mosul by an Islamic group calling itself the Salah al-Deen al-Ayoubi brigade. The CD did not indicate the date of the beheading. The name of the group suggests it may have been Kurdish.²²⁴

August 31, 2004. Bartella. 3 murdered, 2 injured.

Tara Majeed Betros Al-Hadaya, Taghrid Abdul-Massih Ishaq Betros and her sister Hala Abdul-Massih Ishaq Betros were murdered as they returned home from their jobs at the hospital. The three women were in their twenties. Injured in the attack were Amera Nouh Sha'ana (female) and their driver Naji Betros Ishaq.²²⁵

August 1 2004. Baghdad. 40 killed, 300 injured.

Four churches in Baghdad and two churches in Mosul were bombed, killing 40 person in Baghdad.²²⁶

July 19, 2004. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Hani Yohanna Naoom, 43, was shot and killed at 7:00 A.M. in an attempted kidnapping near his convenience shop on Dawasa Street, near the government building.²²⁷

July 17, 2004. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Adeeb Aqrabi was shot and killed by unknown assailants in the pizza shop where he worked, in the al-Zihoor quarter, around 3:00 P.M.²²⁸

²²³ <http://f21.parsimony.net/forum37811/messages/31999.htm>

²²⁴ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=1719>

²²⁵ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=1631>

²²⁶ U.S. State Department Iraq International Religious Freedom Report, 2005

²²⁷ <http://www.ado-world.org/en/news.php?id=336&lang=ar>

²²⁸ <http://www.ado-world.org/en/news.php?id=336&lang=ar>

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July 11, 2004. Baghdad. 2 murdered.

Raneed Raad, 16, and her sister Raphid, 6, were shot at point blank range by assailants who



Raphid Raad, 6



Raneed Raad, 16

broke into their house when their parents were away. The Assyrian family had been threatened earlier but no measures were taken to protect it.²²⁹

July 11, 2004. Baghdad. 2 murdered.

Sami, 6, and Rami, 4, two Assyrian children from the Chaldean Catholic Church, were killed in front of their home when rockets fell in their neighborhood in central of Baghdad.²³⁰

June 23, 2004 Basra. 2 murdered, 1 injured.

Janet and Shatha Odisho, Assyrian sisters working for Bechtel at Basra Airport, were shot and killed as they returned home from work. Their driver was wounded in the attack, which occurred at about 5 PM.²³¹

June 20, 2004. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Raymond Farouq Shimun, 22, kidnapped and killed. His head was partially cut and his hands and legs were smashed. He had multiple knife cuts on his body. His body was thrown in a cemetery outside the city.²³²



Janet and Shatha Odisho

²²⁹ http://www.assyrianchristians.com/commentary_massacre_july_11_04.htm

²³⁰ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=1205>, <http://www.ado-world.org/en/iraq.php?id=175&lang=ar>

²³¹ <http://www.aina.org/news/2004062395734.htm>

²³² http://www.sotaliraq.com/newiraq/article_2004_07_19_4004.html

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June 7, 2004. Baghdad. 8 murdered, 2 injured.

On the morning of June 7th a civilian sedan containing four masked men drove into the Christian Assyrian district of Dora in Baghdad, where the masked men opened fire on Assyrians on their way to work. Four Assyrians were killed and several others seriously wounded. The three men and one woman who were murdered were identified by the Assyrian Democratic Movement (ADM) as Isho Nissan Markus, Youkhana, Duraid Sabri Hanna, Hisham Umar, and Ramziya Enwiya (female). On the same day and in the same district, at approximately 5 P.M. another drive by shooting occurred, targeting Assyrians returning from work, mostly with the Coalition Provisional Authority. Three women, Alice Aramayis, Ayda Petros Bakus and Muna Jalal Karim, were shot and killed, along with their driver. Severely injured were Ramiz and Rami Muwafaq.²³³

June 4, 2004. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Faraj Moshe Markhai was kidnapped on 6/2 and killed on 6/4.²³⁴

May 28, 2004. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Ashor Goriel Yalda was killed by a grenade that was tossed into his car ().

March 26, 2004. Kirkuk. 1 murdered.

Police lieutenant Romeo Esha David (b. 1974), a member of the Assyrian Democratic Movement, was killed in his home.²³⁵

March 22, 2004. Baghdad. 2 murdered.

Elderly couple Ameerjona Barama and his wife Jewded were brutally murdered in their own home in Dora. The husband's throat was slashed and the wife was struck repeatedly on the head.²³⁶

March 17, 2004. Baghdad. 4 murdered, 2 injured.

An Assyrian family was killed in a bomb attack. Killed were Marta Eskharia (mother), Odisho (father), Farid (son), Zaia (son). A granddaughter and the wife of Farid were severely wounded.

January 25, 2004. Basra. 1 murdered.

Dr. Sarmad Samee was shot and killed.



Faraj Moshe Markhai

²³³ <http://www.aina.org/news/20040614200324.htm>

²³⁴ <http://www.keldo.ws/cgi-bin/ikonboard/topic.cgi?forum=4&topic=1090>

²³⁵ <http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2004/3.29.04/index.php#GoodMorningAssyria>

²³⁶ <http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2004/3.22.04/index.php>

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January 21, 2004. Falluja/Ramadi. 4 murdered, 5 injured.

Four women were killed and the other five were injured. The victims worked at a nearby U.S. military base in Habbaniyah. The women worked in the laundry.²³⁷

2003

December 24, 2003. Basra. 1 murdered.

Bashir Toma Elias was killed by a single shot to the head.²³⁸

November 18, 2003. Basra. 1 murdered.

Sargon Nano, the Assyrian Democratic Movement representative in Basra, was killed.²³⁹



Sargon Nano Murado

November 4, 2003. Mosul. 1 murdered.

Ismail Yousif Sadeq, an Assyrian judge, was shot and killed outside his home.²⁴⁰

October 12, 2003. Falluja. 2 murdered.

Danny Isaac and William Cesar were killed in front of their homes. According to family members, a person who knew both men arrived at the front door of their home on al-Khardia (May 1st Street) and ordered them out and shot them both.²⁴¹

October 7, 2003. Mosul. 1 murdered, 1 injured.

Safa Sabah Khoshi was killed, and his cousin Meyaser Karim Khoshi critically injured, when his liquor store was attacked by an RPG grenade.

October 3, 2003. Khalidiya. 2 murdered.

Napoleon, a translator for the U.S. Army, and his 16-year-old son were shot to death in Khaldiya by four men. The father and son were sleeping on the sidewalk next to their house to escape the heat.²⁴²

²³⁷ Associated Press

²³⁸ <http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2003/12.29.03/index.php#GoodMorningAssyria>,
http://www.sotaliraq.com/file/article_2003_12_30_44158y.html

²³⁹ <http://www.aina.org/releases/20040620014229.htm>

²⁴⁰ <http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2003/11.3.03/index.php#GoodMorningAssyria>

²⁴¹ <http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2003/10.20.03/index.php#GoodMorningAssyria>

²⁴² <http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2003/10.6.03/index.php#GoodMorningAssyria>, Associated Press

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Nadan Yonadam

August 19, 2003. Tikrit. 1 murdered.

Nadan Yonadam was killed while working with the U.S. Army as a civilian translator.²⁴³

July 17, 2003. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Husam George Tobeya, 31, was shot and killed at a gas station.



Hazim Petrus Damman

April 10, 2003. Kirkuk. 1 murdered.

Hazim Petrus Damman, a chemical engineer, was killed during a Kurdish raid.²⁴⁴



Cecilia Moshi Hanna

2002

August 15, 2002. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Three armed assailants entered the Sacred Heart of Jesus Monastery and murdered Sister Cecilia Moshi Hanna. She repeatedly stabbed and neck was slit and her head severed from her body.²⁴⁵



Franso Hariri

February 18, 2001. Arbel. 1 murdered.

Franso Hariri, the Assyrian governor of the northern Iraqi province of Arbil, was assassinated. He was the highest ranking Assyrian member of the Kurdistan Democratic Party. Mr. Hariri had been the target previous assassination attempts.²⁴⁶

1999

December 16, 1999. Arbel. 1 murdered.

Habib Yousif Dekhoka, 60, was killed by a bomb planted in his store, in the predominantly Kurdish Sheikh Allah retail district. He been previously threatened by armed men attempting to force him to give up his business, and his store had been firebombed.²⁴⁷



Habib Yousif Dekhoka

²⁴³ <http://www.zindamagazine.com/html/archives/2003/9.1.03/index.php>

²⁴⁴ <http://www.aina.org/releases/karkukmosul.htm>

²⁴⁵ <http://www.aina.org/releases/cecilia.htm>

²⁴⁶ <http://www.aina.org/releases/hariri1.htm>

²⁴⁷ <http://www.aina.org/releases/murderbomb.htm>

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May 3, 1999. Dohuk. 1 murdered.

The body of Ms. Helena Aloun Sawa, 21, was found in early June by a shepherd, partially buried in a shallow grave in near Dohuk dam. She had disappeared on May 3rd. The decomposed body was partially exposed and appeared to have been partially eaten by scavenging wild animals. She had been working for Azet Al Din Al Barwari, a high ranking member of the political bureau of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, who was suspected in her murder.²⁴⁸

1998

December 9, 1998. Arbel. 2 murdered.

Nasreen Hana Shaba (b. 1963) and her daughter Larsa (b. 1995) were killed when a bomb exploded in their home the Terawa district. They were killed as they opened the door to their home, which triggered the bomb.²⁴⁹

1997

December 13, 1997. Duhok, North Iraq. 7 murdered.

Kurdish militia men ambushed seven unarmed Assyrian civilian. Two were immediately killed in the initial volley of gunfire. Five others were seriously wounded. The Kurdish guerillas reportedly approached the remaining five wounded Assyrians and, seeing that they were still alive, shot four of them dead as they lay bleeding. Those killed were all residents of Mangesh and included Slewo Khoshaba, Samir Esho, Majid Shimon, Arkhan Hermiz, Salem Yousif and Najid Mikho. One woman, Wardia Yousif the wife of Najid Mikho, survived with a serious leg wound until December 26th when she too died.²⁵⁰



Helena Sawa

July 27, 1997. Baghdad. 2 murdered.

Three armed men entered the home of Polus Younan, in the N'eriya w'Gayra' section of Baghdad. Mr. Younan, his wife Medina Shinoel, and their 16 year old son, Maffai were there. Ms. Medina Shinoel survived the attack and reported her account to the police. She witnessed the repeated stabbing of her husband in the back with a large knife until the blade of the knife protruded through Mr. Younan's chest. Upon dying, Mr. Younan was rolled into sheets by one assailant as the other two attackers turned their attention to Ms. Shinoel. The attackers began striking Ms. Shinoel with the butt end of their rifles until most of her teeth were broken. Throughout the attack, the assailants demanded information regarding the family's money and savings. The attackers then started slashing Ms. Shinoel's 16-year-old son, Mattai in order to obtain more information. Since the boy is deaf and mute, he was unable to satisfy the attackers'

²⁴⁸ <http://www.aina.org/releases/helena.htm>

²⁴⁹ <http://www.aina.org/releases/nasreen.htm>

²⁵⁰ <http://www.aina.org/releases/northmeso.htm>

questioning. They proceeded to slash the boy until he began to slowly lose consciousness, at which point they moved him to the bathroom and placed him in a bathtub.²⁵¹

April 12, 1997. Baghdad. 1 murdered.

Yousif John Yacoub, 35, was brutally stabbed to death in his home. Three Arab men, employed as school guards in a nearby school, were allegedly instructed by a cleaning woman at the same school to attack and rob Mr. Yacoub. According to Mr. Yacoub's neighbors who witnessed the attack, Mr. Yacoub was stabbed in the back, neck and abdomen. The neighbors notified the police, who arrived prior to Mr. Yacoub's death. Mr. Yacoub survived long enough to identify his attackers and to give the name of a nearby relative to be notified. The police kept Mr. Yacoub in his home for questioning while he was bleeding uncontrollably until his death. They never sought to transport him to a hospital in time to save his life. In addition, Mr. Yacoub's relative was never contacted. The relative heard about the incident one day later, at which point Mr. Yacoub had already died. Mr. Yacoub's relative finally arrived at the home only to find that the police had ransacked the place and removed any valuables or evidence. Two weeks later, Mr. Ameer Shurta, a high ranking police officer and member of the ruling Ba'ath party, along with his wife and children, occupied Mr. Yacoub's house.²⁵²

February 10, 1997. Shaqlawa, North Iraq. 2 murdered.

Lazar Mati and his son Havel Lazar were dragged out of their prison by a vigilante group of 200 armed Kurds and were brutally killed. Prior to their murder, they were taunted, tortured, and finally butchered. Before the murder, 100 Kurds stormed the family home of Mr. Mati and burned it to the ground. Mr. Mati and his son had been falsely accused of killing a Kurd and arrested.²⁵³

1995

March 6, 1995. Aqra. 1 murdered.

Mr. Edward Khoshaba of Aqra was tending his sheep last year when he came across 3 Kurds who had killed and butchered some of his livestock. When confronted, the Kurds attempted to kill Mr. Khoshaba. Mr. Khoshaba was able to kill 2 of the attackers before the third fled to his home village. Reportedly, when the Kurd returned to his home village, a celebration had ensued as the Kurdish villagers had assumed that the Kurdish intruders had successfully killed Mr. Khoshaba in addition to his livestock. When they learned that 2 of the Kurdish intruders had died instead, the entire village mobilized to exact revenge.

Mr. Khoshaba likewise fled to an area controlled by his Assyrian compatriots. A standoff ensued for some time until Mr. Khoshaba's parents (fearing a wholesale escalation in violence) convinced Mr. Khoshaba to turn himself in to the local authorities for an investigation and trial. Needless to say, the Kurdish authorities released Mr. Khoshaba to the relatives of the Kurdish

²⁵¹ <http://www.aina.org/releases/iraq1.htm>

²⁵² <http://www.aina.org/releases/iraq1.htm>

²⁵³ <http://www.aina.org/releases/murder.htm>, <http://www.aina.org/releases/murder2.htm>

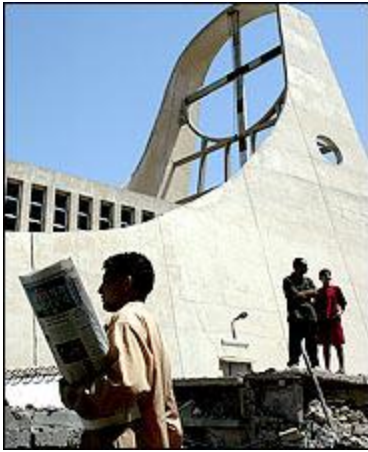
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intruders. He was tied up in their village and eventually butchered into hundreds of pieces on March 6, 1995. Prior to his death, he was reportedly struck in the head repeatedly by an axe by one of the elder women of the village. None of his murderers have been brought to justice.²⁵⁴

²⁵⁴ <http://www.aina.org/releases/cases.htm>

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Appendix 2
Photographs from Church Bombings



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Appendix 3 History of Assyrian Genocide

Assyrian Genocides of the 20th Century

The genocide Assyrians, Armenians and Greeks in Ottoman Turkey, planned by Turks and executed largely by Kurds, was the first genocide of the 20th century. It began on April 24, 1915 and culminated at the end of the war in 1918. 2.65 million Christians were massacred: 750,000 Assyrians (75% of the population), 1.5 million Armenians and 400,000 Greeks. The Assyrians call this genocide *Seyfo* (Sword)²⁵⁵.



(From a Painting)

The burning of the bodies of Christian women by Kurdish women, to recover the gold and precious stones they were supposed to have swallowed

The massacre of Assyrian villagers in the town of Simmele, North Iraq, and its surroundings was the second²⁵⁶. On August 8-11, 1933 the Iraqi army, under the leadership of Bakir Sidqi, a Kurd, killed 3000 men, women and children in the village of Simmele and its surroundings. This was one of the first acts of the new Iraq, having gained its independence from the British in 1932.

It was this Simmele Massacre which inspired Raphael Lemkin, the author of the UN Convention on Genocide, to coin the term *Genocide*²⁵⁷.

Assyrian Genocides of the 19th Century

In October, 1829 the Kurdish leader Rwandez initiated a pogrom against Assyrians of the Syrian Orthodox Church in North Iraq and Syria. The first village that was attacked was Bit-Zabda, where 200 men were killed. Subsequently, the Kurds stormed the Asfas village, first slaying the leader, Deacon Rais Arabo, and then Reverend Aziz. Eighty children fleeing to a nearby valley were attacked and murdered by the pursuing Kurds. The young girls of the village were unclothed. The girls were enslaved while the others were shot on-site. The attackers then moved to Nisibin, on the border of Turkey and Syria, and repeated similar atrocities.²⁵⁸

In 1842 Badr Khan Beg, A Hakkari (southeast Turkey) Kurdish Amir, combined with other Kurdish forces led by Nurallah, attacked the Assyrians, intending to burn, kill, destroy, and, if possible, exterminate the Assyrians from the mountains. The Kurds destroyed and burned

²⁵⁵ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assyrian_Genocide

²⁵⁶ *The Simmele Massacre*, <http://www.aina.org/releases/20040805022140.htm>

²⁵⁷ *1933 Assyrian Genocide in Iraq Inspired the Word 'Genocide'*, <http://www.aina.org/news/20070115185021.htm>

²⁵⁸ Deacon Asman Alkass Gorgis. *Jirah Fi Tarikh Al-syrian*, 1980, pp. 14. Translated by Subhi Younan

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whatever came within their reach. An indiscriminate massacre took place. The women were brought before the Amir and murdered in cold blood. The aged mother of Mar Shimun, the Patriarch of the Church of the East, was seized by them, and after having practiced on her the most abominable atrocities, they cut her body into two parts and threw it into the river Zab, exclaiming, "go and carry to your accursed son the intelligence that the same fate awaits him." Nearly ten thousand Assyrians were massacred, and as large a number of woman and children were taken captive, most of whom were sent to Jezirah to be sold as slaves, to be bestowed as presents upon the influential Muslims.²⁵⁹

On Monday, January 1, 1895 Kurdish soldiers initiated a genocide in the city of Urfa (ancient Urhai), Ottoman Turkey. The attackers were indiscriminate, slaughtering Assyrians of all denominations. One soldier, Sheik Hassan, boasted that he alone killed 40 Assyrians during that day. The Kurdish soldiers besieged the city to prevent Christians from escaping, and slowly entered the village and murdered every Assyrian in site. Assyrian population centers were attacked in the following order:

1. Village of Soyirkah
2. City of Bila Jokah
3. City of Amid
4. Village of Mlatiya
5. Mar'ash and Siwas, and all their surrounding villages.

100,000 Assyrians were killed in 2 days.²⁶⁰

A History of Genocide

Since 630 A.D., the coming of Islam, Assyrians have suffered 30 genocides at the hands of Muslims. Subtracting 661 (the first genocide) from 2007 and dividing by 30 yields 45 years -- the frequency of Assyrian genocides. On average, every second Assyrian generation has suffered genocide.²⁶¹

²⁵⁹ Abraham Yohannan. *The Death of a Nation*. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1916, pp. 111-112

²⁶⁰ Deacon Asman Alkass Gorgis. *Jirah Fi Tarikh Al-syrian*, 1980, pp. 19. Translated by Subhi Younan

²⁶¹ Genocides Against the Assyrian Nation, <http://www.aina.org/martyr.html>

Document Revision History

- June 12, 2007: First publication.
- June 20, 2007: The picture showing the decapitated head and body of Ayad Tariq was removed. AINA determined upon further investigation that the picture was not of Ayad Tariq.
- January 9, 2008: Updated the section on church bombings to include figures from 2007 and 2008.
- March 13, 2008: Added information on the kidnapping and murder of Archbishop Paulus Rahho. Updated graphs and statistics for 2007 and 2008.
- March 27, 2008: Updated church bombings table.
- April 4, 2008: Added entry for murder of Father Youssef Adel; updated executive summary, graphs and statistics.
- September 13, 2008: added entries for Dr. Tariq Qattan and Nafi Haddad; updated executive summary, graphs and statistics.
- October 8, 2008: added entries for the 3 Assyrians killed in Mosul.
- October 13, 2008: added church bombing in Mosul.
- October 14, 2008: added statistics for the wave of killings in September and October.
- October 23, 2008: added the entries for October 6 and 8 in the List of Murdered Assyrians.
- November 12, 2008: added the entry for November 12 in the List of Murdered Assyrians.
- December 19, 2008: corrected an error in the table of church bombings.
- January 4, 2009: added the entry for December 12 in the List of Murdered Assyrians.
- January 16, 2009: added the entry for January 16 in the List of Murdered Assyrians.
- April 3, 2009: added the entries for April 1 and 2 in the List of Murdered Assyrians.
- April 26, 2009: added the entry for April 26 in the List of Murdered Assyrians.
- May 13, 2009: added the entry for May 11 in the List of Murdered Assyrians.
- July 12, 2009: added the entry for July 12 in the List of church attacks.
- October 5, 2009: added the entry for October 5 in the List of Murdered Assyrians. Moved the history of Assyrian genocides discussion into Appendix 3.
- November 30, 2009: Added the entry for November 26 in the list of churches bombed.
- December 16, 2009: Added the entry for December 15 in the list of churches bombed.
- December 20, 2009: Added the entry for December 15 in the list of Murdered Assyrians.
- December 25, 2009: Added the entry for December 23, 2009 in the list of churches bombed.
- January 18, 2010: Added the entries for January 12 and 17 in the list of Murdered Assyrians.
- February 15, 2010: Added the entries for February 14 and 15 in the list of Murdered Assyrians.
- February 16, 2010: Added the entries for February 16 in the list of Murdered Assyrians.
- February 17, 2010: Added the entry for February 17 in the list of Murdered Assyrians.
- February 20, 2010: Added the entry for February 20 in the list of Murdered Assyrians.
- February 23, 2010: Added the entry for February 23 in the list of Murdered Assyrians.
- March 17, 2010: Added the entry for March 17 in the list of Murdered Assyrians.

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- May 12, 2010: Added the entry for May 2 in the list of Murdered Assyrians.
- June 9, 2010: Added the entry for June 7 in the list of Murdered Assyrians