

# IRAQ (4th on Worldwide Watch list) PpenDoors

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Working in Iraq (A) Case Solution



Islamic insurgents continue to unlook herror against, foreign troigs, government and any perceived collaborators. Rival Sunni and Shi plattions turn on each other. The "trigger line" where Areb and Kurdish areas meet is the most violent place. Pooce is now the responsibility of ireas.

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Politics
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THE CHURCH
Most have fled persecution to
Syria, Jordan or the West. Pray
for the preservation of Iraq's
Biblical heritage and for thorestoration and reformation of
this ancient church and for the

His CHURCH
Body neess gifted leaders to teach and
disciple, for the return of some and
development of new ones and for the protection
of all who shephend God's people in the country.

Recent Kurdish Bible available. More materi needed in dialects. Christian literature in great demandcommentaries, study books, Bibles. Use of media (Satellite TV/radia)

Muslim converts especially need our proyers Expot Christians being monitored Workers supporting displaced practically an

Veedy People gr

Marsh Arabs (decimated by Saddam) Bedouin 1.4 million Turkmen Yazidi (see Joshua project) Donnari (Gypsy)





Fertile plains of Tigris and Euphrates Site of the most ancient civilizations (Mesopotamia) where Abraham originated.

Population 36 million

**Baghdad 6 million** 

Other major cities Mosul 1.5m, Irbil (Kurdish) 1m and Basra 1m

**Baghdad** 



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Peoples

Shia Arabs dominate

President Nouri al-Maliki

## Baghdad

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m, Irbil



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Peoples

**Shia Arabs dominate** 

sident Nouri al-Maliki







## **Politics**

Saddam Hussein was dictator from 1958 till his overthrow in 2003. He built up a massive army, repressed Kurds and Shias and fought Iran for 8 years, and invaded Kuwait in 1990 which led to UN invasion and sanctions. US invaded in 2003 alledging weapons of mass destruction. Very difficult to govern.



## Religion

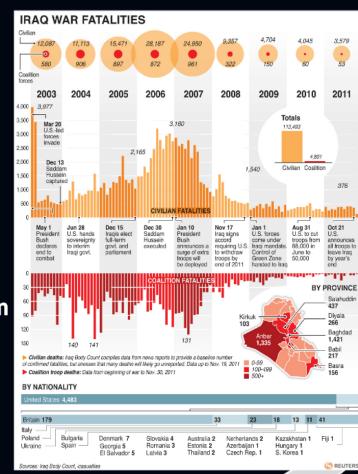
Saddam was a Pan-Arab socialist. Since 2003 Islamists have persecuted minorities with mass exodus of ancient christian churchpeople.
ISLAM 96%
Christian 1.6% ( 1/2 m) mainly catholic or orthodox
Evangelicals 50,000 (Anglicans growing fast)

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## Casualties and suffering

The vast majority have

always been
civilian
casualties
600,000
dead
2 million
displaced
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### **Positives**



Only the gospel can unite, heal and bring justice.

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### Representative government now exist

Reforms bein

fraqi evangelicals grown from a few hundred to 53.000

Kurdish church emerging

#### But still neede

Accountable government
Economic growth
Religious freedom
Healing from trauma
Elimination of corruption
Protection of women
Children-water, food,
schooling.

Deep division
Kurd v Areb
Sunni v Shia
Musiims v minorities
Secular Baethists v Islamis