

# Iraq Turkmen Journal

*Summary of Iraqi Turkmen News & Point of view*



**Erbil Citadel**

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**Bulletin nr.4**

**Tel Afar University welcomed a high-level delegation from Kılıçhan University in Turkey on Monday, April 15, 2024, to discuss enhancing academic relations and expanding the scope of mutual cooperation in various scientific fields.**



BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 15, 2024

During the meeting, the President of Tel Afar University, Professor Dr. Abdul Aziz Ahmed Aziz, highlighted the main areas of proposed collaboration, focusing on nursing, supportive medical sciences like biochemistry and microbiology, as well as mathematics. The meeting resulted in the initial steps toward signing a memorandum of understanding that includes faculty exchange, joint scientific research, and organizing reciprocal scientific visits between the two universities. This meeting underscores the university's efforts to enhance academic and research cooperation with leading educational institutions regionally and internationally, positively reflecting on the development of educational programs and stimulating scientific research across various disciplines.

**The President of Tel Afar University, Professor Dr. Abdulaziz Ahmed Aziz, hosted a celebration on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, to mark the Yazidi New Year (Çarşema Sor). This holiday is one of the folklore occasions for the Yazidi community, featuring rituals that reflect their religious beliefs.**

This celebration is part of Tel Afar University's efforts to enhance cultural diversity in the city and to emphasize the importance of respecting the beliefs and traditions of all community members. It also aims to strengthen social relationships and communication among various segments of society.



BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 17, 2024

**The Services and Municipal Affairs Committee of the Nineveh Governorate Council, chaired by Committee Chairwoman Mrs. Laliyal Mohammed Ali Al-Bayati, met with the directors of the service departments in the district of Tel Afar.**



BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 17, 2024

The meeting, attended by Mr. Khalil Habash, the District Commissioner of Tel Afar, involved discussions on the obstacles and problems facing these departments and the mechanisms for resolving these issues. The meeting also covered most of the completed, ongoing, and delayed projects across all departments of the district. At the end of the meeting, recommendations were issued that will be disseminated by the District Commissioner to all relevant departments.

## The Turkmen ITAR Bloc announced its strategic objectives



BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 17, 2024

The Turkmen ITAR Bloc announced its strategic objectives, emphasizing that the Turkmen component, the third major constituent group in Iraq, has made significant sacrifices, including thousands of martyrs and wounded in the cause of security, stability, and rights of all components. This was stated during a press conference held today, Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at the press center of the House of Representatives.

The bloc highlighted its representation of the Turkmen component in Baghdad, Nineveh, Tel Afar, Kirkuk, Salah al-Din, Diyala, and Erbil, and its efforts to secure legitimate rights for the Turkmen, particularly regarding the non-implementation of Article 125 of the Constitution, which guarantees administrative, political, cultural, and educational rights for various nationalities, including Turkmen and Chaldeans.

The Turkmen responded to the call of the highest religious authority in Najaf, maintained the country's independence, and fought terrorism.

The bloc noted the existence of political agreements underscoring the importance of the Turkmen achieving all their legitimate rights. However, these agreements have not been implemented, and there is no true representation of them in the Iraqi government or other presidencies proportionate to their significant sacrifices.

The deputy head of the Turkmen ITAR Bloc, MP Ghareeb Askar Al-Turkmani, confirmed during the conference the continuation of meetings and dialogues with leaders of political blocs under the parliament's dome to ensure justice and achieve legitimate rights for the Turkmen.

He pointed out that the Turkmen have sacrificed themselves for our beloved country, and Iraq will remain free and proud.

**Municipal sectors in Kirkuk have issued a final warning to shop and restaurant owners who encroach on public sidewalks.**



BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 17, 2024

The fourth municipal sector, in coordination with the Ninety Police Center, issued the warning on Sunday. Several violations by commercial shop and restaurant owners were identified, including the random disposal of waste on the streets and the complete occupation of sidewalks, among other infractions that detract from the aesthetic of Kirkuk.

The official in charge of the fourth sector confirmed that this warning is final, and legal measures will be taken against violators if they do not comply.

**Kirkuk University organized an educational seminar on enhancing the culture of ethical behavior in public service**

Kirkuk University organized an educational seminar on enhancing the culture of ethical behavior in public service, in institutional collaboration with the Integrity Commission. The



BY IRAQI TURKMEN ASPECT ON APRIL 17, 2024

event saw significant participation from the university's teaching and administrative staff across various colleges.

Professor Dr. Omran Jamal Hassan, the President of Kirkuk University, praised the role of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research for its engagement with the Federal Integrity Commission through programs, conferences, workshops, and educational seminars in the environment of Iraqi universities. He emphasized the importance of fostering concepts of integrity and transparency in building governmental institutions and promoting the values of integrity and combating corruption, which are considered a shared national responsibility.

The seminar featured a lecture by Samir Faraj Mohammed, the legal advisor at the Federal Integrity Commission, who discussed the concepts of integrity and transparency. He highlighted the laws governing the conduct of public service employees and the necessity of promoting legal culture to help eliminate administrative and financial infractions.

**Mr. Amir Oji, the head of the Kirkuk branch of the Turkmen Eli Party, participated in the first reading evening held in the city of Kirkuk. This event was organized in honor of the martyrs of the Popular Mobilization Forces (alhashid) and the martyrs of Gaza City, with the presence of several political and social figures from the city.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 17, 2024



**Arshad Al-Salhi, accompanied by the Acting Speaker of the Iraqi Parliament, Mohsen Al-Mandlawi, met with the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş, and a number of Turkish deputies today, Wednesday, in Ankara.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 17, 2024

During the meeting, discussions focused on Iraq's role and status on the diplomatic front to establish peace and stability in the region, the strategic importance of its geographical location, and the urgency of completing steps to activate the Development Road project,



which offers significant economic progress and investment opportunities for both countries and the region.

The two sides also discussed a range of issues, primarily water and security, the Zionist aggression against the Palestinian people, and the necessity of taking a firm stance against this arrogance and pressing to end the aggression, deter the occupation, and ensure continuous and urgent delivery of humanitarian aid.

The Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş, stated that Turkey considers the unity of Iraqi territory as fundamental to achieving peace in the region. He noted that the upcoming visit of Turkish President Erdogan to Iraq will include the signing of significant agreements and memorandums of understanding, highlighting his country's commitment to contributing to the resurgence and development of Iraq.

**Ahmed Ramzi , a member of the Kirkuk Provincial Council, welcomed his fellow council member, Mrs. Anjil Zia Sheeba**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 17, 2024



Ahmed Ramzi , a member of the Kirkuk Provincial Council, welcomed his fellow council member, Mrs. Anjil Zia Sheeba, at his office in the council's Diwan today, Wednesday. The meeting was also attended by Ali Al-Hammadi, the Technical Assistant to the Governor of Kirkuk.



During the meeting, they exchanged holiday greetings and emphasized the importance of enhancing mutual cooperation and working together to fulfill the aspirations, desires, and demands of the esteemed citizens of Kirkuk.

**The Haj Abdul Karim Abdul Rahman Yousif Al-Azzi Mosque was inaugurated in Daquq district, in the Second Killesa area, by Mr. Rakan Saeed al-Jubouri, the Governor of Kirkuk.**



BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 19, 2024

The inauguration was attended by the Kirkuk Police Chief, Major General Kawah Ghareeb Abdul Rahman, the Administrative Deputy of the Sunni Endowment Diwan, Dr. Mohammed Saleh, the Commander of East Salahuddin Operations, Major General Ali Al-Maliki, the District Commissioner of Daquq, Abdul Sattar Al-Azzi, the Director of the Sunni Waqf, Salem Majeed, along with several scholars, religious figures, dignitaries, and local residents.

The project to pave the internal streets in the Yaychi district continues under the supervision of the Engineering Department of the Governorate's Diwan, with the efforts of the General Planning staff, and the oversight of Yaychi district director Mr. Falah Khalil.



BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 19, 2024

**The Minister of Trade visited Kirkuk to discuss the preparations for the upcoming marketing season**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 19, 2024

The Minister of Trade visited Kirkuk to discuss the preparations for the upcoming marketing season, which is set to commence in the coming weeks. The visit focused on expanding and developing access routes to the reception centers at the Kirkuk and Riyadh silos, as well as opening new collection outlets in Kirkuk. Efforts are being made to ensure the rights of



farmers are secured and that their daily capacity to handle farmers and marketers is adequate. Additionally, staffing and inspectors at the reception centers are being arranged to support the anticipated influx.

## Pictures of Altun Kupri





**Arshad Al-Salhi, the head of the Turkmen Parliamentary Bloc, chaired a meeting of the Iraqi parliamentary delegation with a group of Turkish businessmen, investors, representatives of associations, and officials in the private sector in Ankara today, Thursday. The meeting was attended by the advisor at the Iraqi Embassy in Ankara, Mr. Khalil Al-Mashhadani, and the commercial attaché, Dr. Muthanna Al-Janabi.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 19, 2024



During the meeting, Mr. Al-Salhi discussed with the businessmen and investors ways to facilitate investment procedures, remove obstacles, and reduce bureaucratic measures. He emphasized to the attendees that today presents an opportunity to elevate the economic and trade relations between the two countries and stressed the importance of seizing this opportunity. He assured them of Iraq's commitment to easing the operations of Turkish companies and enhancing trade exchange.

Al-Salhi highlighted the significance of completing the Development Road project, which will serve as a vital artery for trade exchange and economic communication between the two countries. This project is expected to bolster bilateral relations, economic development, and deepen the cultural and social ties between the peoples of the two neighboring countries.

**The leader of the TurkmenEli Party, Mr. Riad Sari Kahya, congratulated Dr. Ali Hussein Aloush on the occasion of his selection as the Sheikh of the Al-Bayati tribe, which was unanimously agreed upon by the sheikhs of the Al-Bayati in Iraq.**



In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful,

Dear Mr. Ali Hussein Aloush Al-Bayati,

We were delighted to hear about the consensus reached in the tribal meeting of the Al-Bayati tribe in Iraq and their choice of your esteemed self as the Sheikh of the Al-Bayati tribe in the city of Kifri. You are indeed a worthy successor to a noble predecessor. We pray to Almighty God to grant you success and wisdom in carrying this responsibility and to continue in the footsteps of your late father, Hussein Aloush Al-Bayati, may God have mercy on him and grant him paradise.

Riad Sari Kahya

Leader of the TurkmenEli Party

### Statement

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 21, 2024

The forthcoming historic visit by the President of the Republic of Turkey, Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, to Baghdad on April 22nd, holds significant importance in strengthening the bilateral relations between the two brotherly neighboring countries, Iraq and Turkey. This visit is expected to open new avenues for joint cooperation in various fields of mutual interest, particularly in areas such as the Development Road project, and in addressing the threats posed by the terrorist organization PKK, which affects the interests of both countries and other neighboring states.



We, at the Iraqi Turkmen Front and the Unified Iraqi Turkmen Front, firmly believe that this historic visit will have positive repercussions in advancing our joint cooperation to broader dimensions. It represents a qualitative leap in the level of relations, understanding, and collaboration between the two countries, and will further solidify stability and prosperity in the region.

Unified Iraqi Turkmen Front, April 21, 2024

**The Integrity Commission has detected corruption suspicions in a project worth two billion Iraqi dinars in Kirkuk.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 22, 2024

According to a statement from the Commission, the investigative team from Kirkuk's office, which moved to the governorate's diwan, conducted thorough audits and inspections of the project documents for opening the pathway of the East Bank Street from Granada Bridge to the Fourth Bridge. These investigations uncovered corruption suspicions in the project, which had been awarded by the government contracts department of the governorate's diwan to a local contracting company for a total cost of 2,148,160,000 Iraqi dinars.



The statement added that the team noted several violations, including non-compliant filling work as per the technical specifications and the use of materials transferred from other projects. Additionally, the executing company had painted the curbs before completing the paving and cladding works, with the knowledge and approval of the supervising authorities, contrary to the usual procedure where such tasks are done after paving and cladding.

Furthermore, the team moved to the General Authority for Taxes in Kirkuk, where they observed legal violations and corruption suspicions attributed to an appraisal officer who

provided a clearance letter to a taxpayer without accounting for direct deductions, and without demanding field surveys or final accounts of other income sources. The statement highlighted that the tax accounting procedures for the taxpayer were not in compliance with the tax law, which requires taxpayers to pay the full amount of tax due on their income sources.

**On Friday, an Iraqi security source reported that the Iraqi Air Force conducted airstrikes on locations harboring hideouts of the ISIS terrorist organization southwest of Kirkuk.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 22, 2024



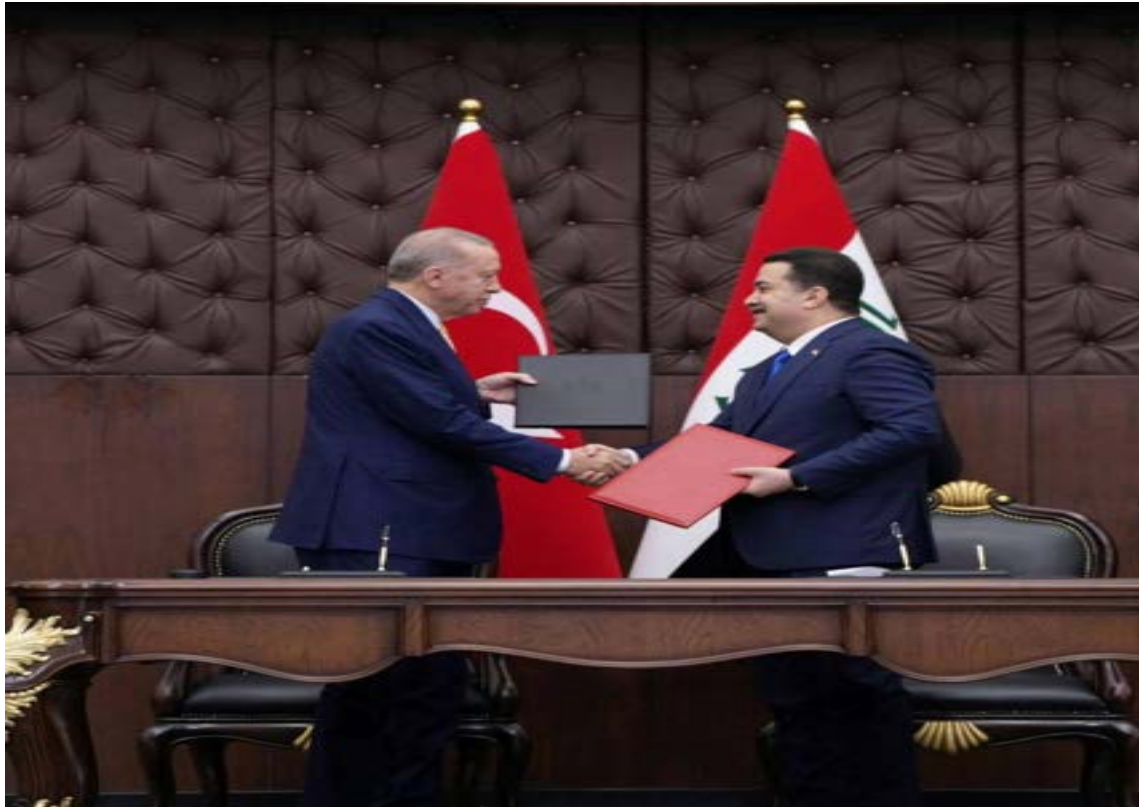
The source informed that "the Iraqi Air Force carried out several airstrikes targeting locations within the area of Hawi al-Danadish towards the village of Al-Halawat, within the Hawija district (55 km southwest of Kirkuk). The strikes aimed to target ISIS hideouts deeply situated in the Hawi al-Danadish region." The source also noted that "a security force conducted a military operation simultaneously with the airstrikes, searching for hideouts and elements of the terrorist ISIS group."

**On April 22, 2024, Iraq and Turkey signed a series of memoranda of understanding and agreements in Baghdad, reflecting a broad and comprehensive effort to enhance bilateral relations and cooperation across multiple sectors. Here is a summary of the agreements signed:**

1. Strategic Framework Agreement\*\* between the governments of the Republic of Iraq and the Republic of Turkey.
2. Framework Memorandum of Agreement\*\* for cooperation in the field of water management.



3. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* for the Development Road project, between the Ministries of Transport.



BY IRAQI TURKMEN ASPECT ON APRIL 22, 2024

4. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* to establish a Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO).

5. Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement\*\* to facilitate and secure investments.

6. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* between the Federation of Iraqi Chambers of Commerce and the Turkish Foreign Economic Relations Board.

7. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* for technical, scientific, and economic cooperation in small and medium-sized enterprise projects.

8. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* in military training.

9. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* on training and cooperation in military health.

10. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* for strategic cooperation between the Authority of Military Manufacturing and the Turkish Defense Industries Secretariat.
11. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* on security cooperation.
12. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* between the Institute of Foreign Service and the Turkish Strategic Studies Institute, linked to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs.
13. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* in the field of youth and sports.
14. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* in the field of health sciences and medicine.
15. Action Plan\*\* for agricultural collaboration for 2024-2025.
16. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* on scientific research and technology.
17. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* for cooperation in education.
18. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* in tourism cooperation.
19. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* in labor and social security.
20. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* on social affairs and family.
21. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* regarding government documents and archives.
22. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* on product safety and technical barriers to trade.
23. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* on religious affairs.
24. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* on judicial training for students, judges, assistants, and public prosecutors.
25. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* in the field of electricity.
26. Memorandum of Understanding\*\* in media and communications.

These agreements highlight a deep commitment from both nations to reinforce their partnership and cooperation in various domains, aiming to benefit both countries economically, socially, and culturally.

**President of Turkey, Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, met with Turkmen political leaders in the government palace in Baghdad.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 22, 2024

President of Turkey, Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, met with Turkmen political leaders in the government palace in Baghdad. The meeting was attended by prominent figures including the head of the Iraqi Turkmen Front and the leader of the Unified Iraqi Turkmen Front, Mr. Hasan



Turan. This engagement underscores the significance of the Turkmen community in Iraq and highlights ongoing diplomatic efforts to strengthen ties between Turkey and the Iraqi Turkmen.

**Sports festival for the secondary level for the academic year 2023/2024 in Kirkuk Education**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 23, 2024

The Turkmen Department of Education, under the supervision of the department director, Professor Emad Mohammed Ibrahim, organized a sports festival for the secondary level for

the academic year 2023/2024 in Kirkuk Education. This event, coordinated with the Fazuli Foundation for Education and



Culture and the Directorate of Sports and Youth in Kirkuk, took place in the Biladi Hall on Monday, April 22, 2024. It was overseen by the specialist supervisor for Physical Education, Ms. Sundus Ibrahim. The event was attended by the Deputy for Administrative Affairs to the General Director of Kirkuk Education, Professor Ali Hussein Gulpoy, along with Ms. Bruin Khaled Wahab, Director of the Specialist Supervision Department, Mr. Emad Beyatli, Director of the Fazuli Foundation for Education and Culture, and Professor Adnan Aziz, Deputy Director for the Sports Activity Department. A select group of supervisors, school directors, and school procession teams also participated. The festival was managed by the media representative of the Sports Activity Department, Gulzar Abdul Aziz Beyatli.



In his role, Professor Emad, Director of the Turkmen Study Department, commended the efforts and organization of the festival, highlighting its significance in showcasing the importance of physical education for students at various educational stages. The event concluded with an awards ceremony where medals were presented to the participating and winning teams in the competitions held during the festival.

**The Ministry of Construction and Housing revealed on Tuesday the scheduled opening of a vital bridge connecting the Kirkuk-Baghdad highway this year.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 23, 2024



Kassem Hamza Al-Bayati, Director of Roads and Bridges in Kirkuk, in a statement reported by the official news agency, stated that "the work on the second passage of the Daquq Bridge, which connects the provinces of Kirkuk and Salah ad Din, has reached advanced stages, with completion rates exceeding 76%. He emphasized the continuous efforts by the technical and engineering staff to complete and open it within the current year."

He added that "the Daquq Bridge, which is approximately one kilometer long, is among the crucial routes used by commercial and tourist convoys. It connects the highway coming from Baghdad and the southern provinces towards the northern provinces of the country."

He also mentioned, "parts of the bridge had collapsed due to floodwaters," noting that "its opening to the public is expected within this year."

## **The 23rd of April Turkmen Children's Day Celebration**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 23, 2024



On the occasion of Children's Day, a number of activities were held in Turkmen schools within Kirkuk Province.

**The Women's Affairs Unit at Kirkuk University, in collaboration with the Psychological Counseling and Educational Guidance Unit at the Faculty of Law and Political Science, organized a scientific seminar on the importance of family cohesion and the real reasons for the increase in divorce cases.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 24, 2024

The seminar discussed the concepts of family cohesion and disintegration, highlighting the significance of dialogue as a key tool for enhancing family unity. It also addressed the factors

leading to the disintegration of families and societies, with a focus on the absence of a legal framework to combat domestic violence and the lack of complete harmony among family members.



The seminar recommended a set of solutions to enhance harmony and bonding within families, including focusing on mutual respect and acceptance of differing opinions among family members.

**The photo coverage of the central ceremonies of the Iraqi Turkmen Front on the occasion of the 29th anniversary of its founding, which was held in the city of Kirkuk.**













The Turkmen ITAR ( Framework) extends congratulations on the occasion of the anniversary of the founding of the Iraqi Turkmen Front.

#### م/برقية تهنئة

بمناسبة تكملي تأسيس الجبهة التركمانية العراقية

الأخ العزيز السيد حسن توران رئيس الجبهة التركمانية العراقية

الإخوة السادة نواب رئيس الجبهة وأعضاء المكتب السياسي للجبهة التركمانية العراقية الأعضاء

تحية احترام وتقدير.....

بمناسبة الذكرى السنوية التاسعة والعشرين لتأسيس الجبهة التركمانية العراقية، بشرقنا ويسعدنا أن نتقدم إليكم، ومن خلالكم إلى كوادر وأعضاء ومؤيدي وأنصار الجبهة وأصوم أبناء شعبنا التركماني الكريم بأسمى آيات التهنية والتبريكات بهذه المناسبة التي تعد إحدى أهم المحطات العظيمة في تاريخ شعبنا، وجاءت تويجاً لتضحيات وتضال كبير استمرت لسنوات من أجل توثيق الحقوق القومية والسياسية للتركمان.

ونحن إذ نعبر عن فخرنا وسعادتنا بهذه المناسبة المباركة، نستذكر الدور المشرف الذي لعبته الجبهة التركمانية العراقية في الساحة السياسية العراقية منذ التأسيس في 1995/4/24 بمدينة أربيل قعة التركمان حين كانت الملاذ الآمن للثوري الوطنية المعارضة لنظام الحكم الدكتاتوري البعثي البائد، وحيث كانت للتنظيمات والتشكيلات المتطوية تحت راية الجبهة التركمانية دوراً كبيراً في مقارعة نظام حكم البعث، وقدمت خلال مسيرته التضحية في سبيل القضية التركمانية المنامت من الشهداء والسجناء، ودوره كذلك بتمثيل التركمان سياسياً في المطالبة بالحقوق القومية والسياسية للتركمان العراق في المحافل الدولية، ولدوره أيضاً كقوة سياسية فاعلة ومؤثرة في الساحة العراقية ما بعد التغيير.

وفي الختام، نعيد تهنئتنا بهذه المناسبة، ونتمنى لقيادة الجبهة المزيد من العطاء والتقدم في العمل السياسي خدمة لأبناء شعبنا، ونتطلع كذلك إلى العمل والتعاون المشترك معاً من أجل قضيتنا، كما أننا نعاينكم وأمام أبناء شعبنا باتنا ومن متطوع المسؤولية القومية والوطنية بأن تكون معكم دائماً في خندق واحد نلتمتع عن حقوق أبناء شعبنا التركماني بكل قوة وعزيمة وإقتدار، وننتشارك معكم المواقف في القضايا المصرية، وفي المحافظة على الثوابت والمكتسبات الوطنية والقومية وأن تكون بوصلتنا السياسية دائماً في اتجاه واحد فقط هو لخدمة القضية التركمانية العادلة.

النايب غريب عسكر التركماني

مقرر مجلس النواب العراقي

نايب رئيس كتلة الاطراف التركماني

حراكوك: 2024/4/24

**The Fine Arts Institute for Girls in Tal Afar has inaugurated its second annual art exhibition under the slogan "Impressions of Our Institute".**



The event was attended by respected individuals including Member of Parliament Mukhtar Al-Mousawi, Ninawa Provincial Council member Layal Al-Bayati, District Commissioner of Tal Afar Khalil Mohsen Al-Habash, Director of Preparation and Training Asma Al-Jubouri, Head of Institutes Division Maha Al-Naimi, Director of Tal Afar Education Department Ali Mardan Al-Bayati, Kazem Mohammed Al-Mousawi, responsible for the Supreme Islamic Iraqi Council in Tal Afar, Qasim Al-Mousawi, along with numerous supervisory and educational bodies, and a selection of the city's artists and intellectuals. The exhibition showcased a large collection of artistic paintings, calligraphy, ornamentation, and handicrafts produced by students from various departments (Fine Arts, Calligraphy and Ornamentation, and Design), which amazed and impressed all attendees.





At the conclusion, the institute's director, Ms. Najwa Al-Naimi, thanked all the dignitaries who attended the annual art exhibition. She also appreciated the teaching staff for their relentless efforts, dedication, and loyalty in honing and developing the artistic skills and talents of the institute's students.

**The Kirkuk Writers' and Authors' Union mourns the passing of the poet and storyteller Nusrat Mardan, who died at the age of 76 after a battle with illness in Geneva, Switzerland.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 25, 2024



Mohammed Khader Al-Hamdani, the president of the union, stated, "Nusrat Mardan was an Iraqi storyteller, translator, poet, and critic, born in 1948 in Kirkuk. He completed his primary, intermediate, and high school education there before moving to Turkey in 1973 to pursue his university education in economics in Izmir, after which he returned to Kirkuk."

He continued, "He later worked as a lecturer at Salahaddin University in the College of Administration and Economics until 1991, when he moved to Switzerland and settled there until his passing."

Al-Hamdani highlighted that "the writer contributed significantly to introducing many Iraqi and Turkmen figures to Turkish and Arab intellectuals, and he wrote his works in both Arabic and Turkmen languages."

His recent publications from the Dar Dafaf Publishing House in Austria include a collection of his works: "Friendship with Birds" (poetry, 1983), "Fish Deviation in the River" (critical studies, 1985), "Good Morning, Evening" (a collection of stories, 1984), "Story of the Happy Dreams Tavern" (Austria, 2003), "Goodbye Silopi" (novel), "One Death is Not Enough" (poetry, 2003), "Sorrows Multiply in Exile" (poetry, 2004), "Assassination of Kirkuk Castle" (2002), "An Overview of Contemporary Turkmen Theater" (2005), and "The Turkmen Presence in Kirkuk as a Model of Ethnic Brotherhood: Past and Present." Additionally, he authored many articles and research papers aimed at reviving Turkmen heritage, along with numerous poems.

He also wrote several plays for the Turkmen section of Baghdad Radio while still in intermediate and high school.

His plays presented in Kirkuk include "The Farce" (1969), "The Bell" (which won the first prize in 1970), "Shemendifer" (1974), and the play "Echo" (1992). He wrote about Fuzuli, Leyla and Majnun (published in the Turkmen newspaper Yurd, issue 705, in 1984), and he wrote an article about Nowruz, one of the oldest festivals in ancient Iraqi civilization. Additionally, he penned a book about Iraq, a Turkish letter, and stories like "The Red Rose Told Me," "The Japanese Dancer Izo," "A Bullet in the Heart of the Dove," and "Mount of Olives: The Last Days of the Ottomans in Syria and Lebanon."

Moreover, he introduced a large number of Iraqi and Arab poets and writers to Turkish intellectuals through his translations of poems by Al-Sayab and Mohammed Al-Maghout and Al-Bayati, publishing a special file about them in the magazine Turkish Writings in 1979. He

also translated Alfred Farag's play "Fire and Olive" into Turkish, translated the novels "The Tinplate" and "If They Kill the Snake" by Turkish novelist Yasar Kemal into Arabic, printed in Baghdad in 1990, and translated Gönkor Delmen's play "Monkey's Live Restaurant" and other works from the World Theater Series.

His other publications include "Turkmen Journalism in Iraq between Two Centuries: A Documentary Study" (1911-2006) and "The Time of Roses in Kirkuk: An Anthology of Contemporary Iraqi Turkmen Short Stories," co-authored with his colleague writer Mohammed Omar Qazangi.

Nusrat Mardan also served as the editor-in-chief of the newspaper "Dogush," or "Dawn," which was the first political opposition newspaper in the history of the Iraqi Turkmen and was published in both Arabic and Turkmen in Erbil in 1992.

His Turkmen poems were translated into Arabic and Kurdish and published in poetry anthologies in Turkey, Turkmenistan, and Azerbaijan.

**The President of the Iraqi Turkmen Front, Mr. Hasan Turan, received the Governor of Kirkuk, Mr. Rakan Saeed Al-Jubouri, on Thursday, April 25, 2024.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 25, 2024

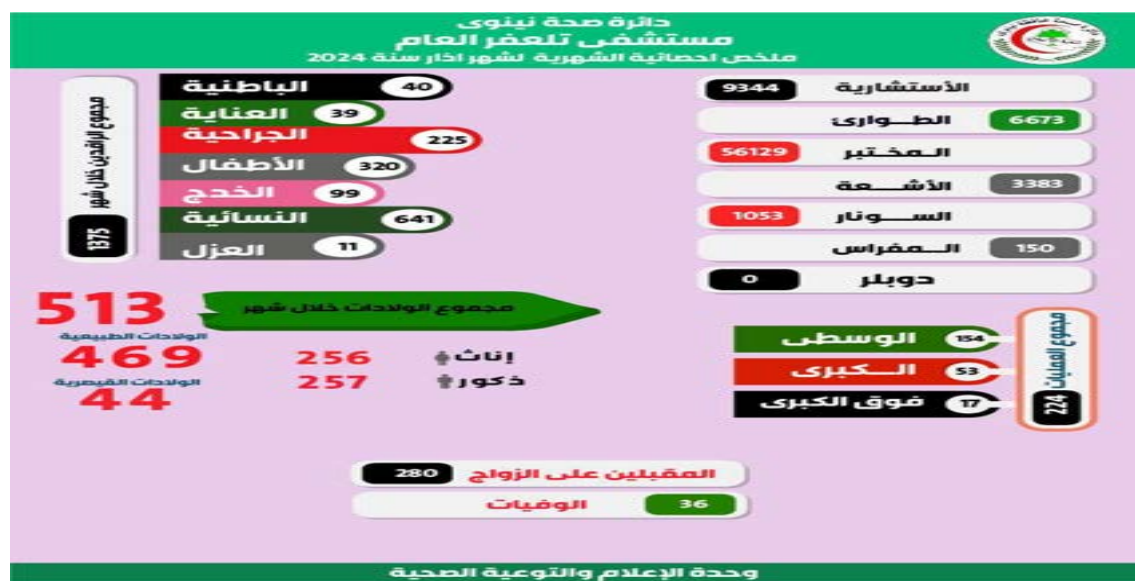


The Governor of Kirkuk and his accompanying delegation extended their congratulations to Mr. Hasan Turan on the 29th anniversary of the founding of the Iraqi Turkmen Front, which was established on April 24, 1995.

During the meeting, both parties affirmed their continued joint efforts to enhance the security and stability of Kirkuk, and to work on improving the service reality and maintaining the shared strategic constants.

## Monthly Statistical Summary for Tal Afar General Hospital for Last March

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 26, 2024



Work continues on the rehabilitation and development of the Al-Musalla area fountain, supported by the provincial administration and supervised by the Kirkuk Municipal Directorate. This project is part of the 2023 regional development initiatives.

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 26, 2024



In the latest official statistics for the number of indoor sports halls and youth forums in Kirkuk, there are 5 sports halls and 17 youth forums that host sports events and youth festivals, distributed across the center, districts, and sub-districts of the region.

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 27, 2024





The Director of Youth and Sports in Kirkuk stated, "We have three sports halls under our directorate, financed by the Ministry of Youth and Sports. These include the Biladi Hall in the Al-Hajjaj area, which accommodates 500 spectators, the International Hall near Baghdad Garage, which can hold up to 1000 spectators, and the Youth Hall within the directorate's building, which has a capacity of 350 spectators."

Additionally, two halls were financed by the provincial government for the benefit of clubs, located at the Solaf Club in the Housing area and the Kiwan Club in the Rahim Awa area.

Over the next three months, Kirkuk will see the inauguration of 6 additional halls funded by the ministry. These are distributed according to the population density of the areas and will be operational in the Shorja, June, Taza, Hawija, Riyadh, and Zab areas. There is also another international hall whose construction has not yet commenced, pending land allocation by the municipality; it will be located in the Domiz area.

The total number of youth forums in Kirkuk is 17, with 7 located in the Shorja, Rizgari, Celebration Square, Tis'een, June, Al-Askari neighborhood, and Al-Quds Street areas, and 10 other forums distributed across the districts and sub-districts of the province.

**Technical and service teams in Kirkuk have commenced installing solar-powered traffic signs at public streets and major intersections.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 27, 2024



These solar-powered lights and signals are designed to conserve energy by utilizing solar power instead of the national electricity grid. This initiative helps reduce reliance on non-renewable energy sources, decreases carbon emissions, and contributes to environmental preservation and improvement.

**Addressing UNESCO and the European Union about the discrimination against the Turkmen language and the Iraqi Turkmen heritage regarding Erbil Castle(Citadel)**  
BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 27, 2024

Based on the appeals we received from the Turkmen of Erbil and other Iraqi Turkmen, a telegram was sent to UNESCO and the European Union.

To : UNESCO /EU office in Iraq

UNESCO Headquarters

Dear UNESCO Representative,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Iraqi Turkmen community, a vital ethnic group with a profound historical connection to the Erbil Citadel, a landmark that embodies the diverse cultural fabric of Iraq.

The Erbil Citadel has been a focal point of history, culture, and civilization for millennia. Historical studies and archaeological findings suggest significant Turkmen influence and presence in its establishment and development. Despite this, the Turkmen language and culture are currently underrepresented in the informational materials and narratives presented at the citadel.

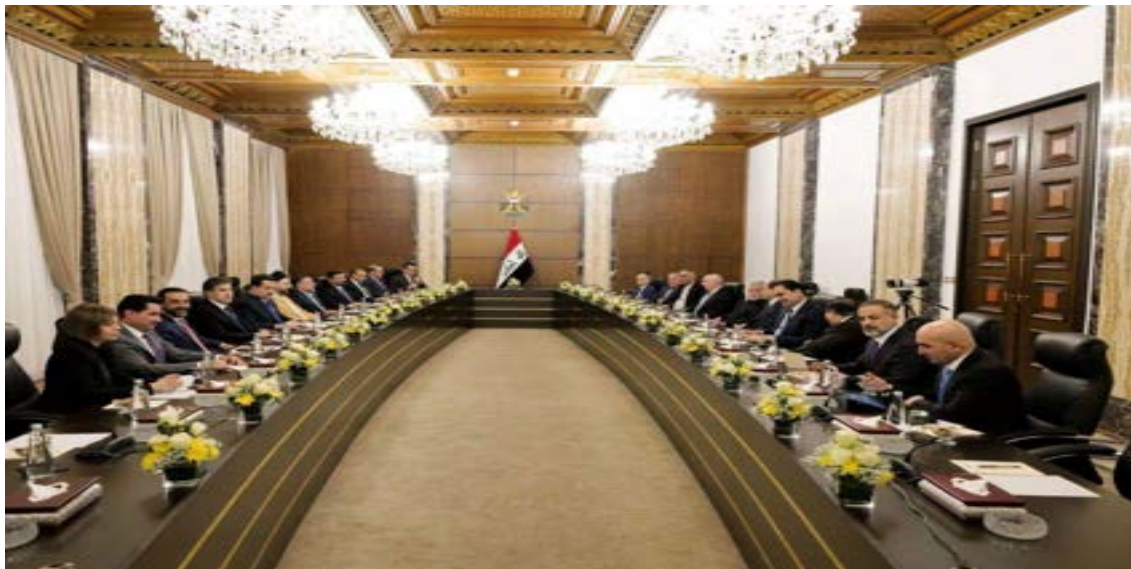


As the Erbil Citadel's development programs are being generously supported by the European Union, we believe there is a crucial opportunity to rectify this oversight. The inclusion of the Turkmen language in the Citadel's displays and educational materials would not only correct a historical oversight but also enrich the visitor experience, showcasing the true multicultural heritage of the region.

We respectfully request UNESCO's support in advocating for the integration of Turkmen heritage into the narrative of the Erbil Citadel. Such an initiative would align with UNESCO's mission to promote cultural diversity and mutual understanding among communities.

We are hopeful for your positive response and are willing to engage in further dialogue to discuss how we can collaboratively work towards this goal. Thank you for considering our request to help us preserve and celebrate our rich cultural heritage at the Erbil Citadel.

**The President of the Iraqi Turkmen Front attended the State Administration Alliance meeting, which was chaired by Prime Minister Mr. Mohammed Shia' Al-Sudani on Saturday, April 27, 2024, in Baghdad.**



The meeting, attended by leaders of the State Administration Alliance, discussed the outcomes of the Prime Minister's visit to the United States and the results of the visit of the President of the Republic of Turkey, Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, to Iraq. The attendees emphasized the utmost importance of following up on the results of these visits and the activation and implementation of the bilateral agreements signed, aiming to advance Iraq's interests and focus on developmental paths that serve the common interests of all countries in the region.

**The President of the Iraqi Turkmen Front, Mr. Hassan Turan, met with the Commander of the 21st Division, Major General Emad Ahmed Mohammed, accompanied by the Deputy President of the Iraqi Turkmen Front, Mr. Haitham Hashim Mukhtar Oglu, on Monday, April 29, 2024.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 29, 2024

During the meeting, Turan praised the efforts of the security forces and agencies in maintaining security and stability, and their work in combating terrorist hideouts.



**Local sources in Kirkuk reported that a crude oil pipeline in the village of Qazliyar, southwest of the province, experienced an explosion and rupture, resulting in the emission of large amounts of oil and the release of noxious gases. This forced the residents of nearby homes to evacuate temporarily.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 29, 2024



This incident marks the second of its kind within four months; a similar event occurred in January 2024, which also led to the displacement of local residents. Such incidents have been recurring over the past years and are recorded periodically.

**The Director of Youth and Sports in Kirkuk, Uday Awad, announced that his department has allocated three billion Iraqi dinars from its own budget for this year to support special sports activities. He noted that these financial allocations were approved by the Kirkuk administration after obtaining the approval of the Minister of Youth and Sports.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 29, 2024



He also mentioned that following the allocation of this amount, the Directorate of Youth and Sports held a comprehensive meeting with the National Olympic Committee in Kirkuk and various sports federations to discuss a range of issues related to the state of sports activities and ways to enhance the sports movement across all federations.

**Arshad al-Salihi, the leader of the Turkmen parliamentary bloc, participated in the extended meeting of the Article 140 Parliamentary Committee.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 29, 2024

Arshad al-Salihi, the leader of the Turkmen parliamentary bloc, participated in the extended meeting of the Article 140 Parliamentary Committee, chaired by Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Dr. Shakhwan Abdullah, and attended by directors of the Executive Committee's offices in the central and southern provinces. The meeting, held on Sunday, focused on the



Arshad al-Salihi, the leader of the Turkmen parliamentary bloc, participated in the extended meeting of the Article 140 Parliamentary Committee, chaired by Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Dr. Shakhwan Abdullah, and attended by directors of the Executive Committee's offices in the central and southern provinces. The meeting, held on Sunday, focused on the

executive measures and the cancellation of the resolutions of the dissolved Revolutionary Command Council, with an emphasis on restoring rights and properties to their rightful owners.

Mr. al-Salihi emphasized that the primary goal of forming the committee is to compensate citizens who were affected by the demographic change policies during the era of the previous regime.

**The President of the Iraqi Turkmen Front and the leader of the Unified Iraqi Turkmen Front, Mr. Hassan Turan, met with the President of Salah ad Din Provincial Council, Mr. Adel Abdul Salam Al-Sumaidaie, during his visit to Salah ad Din province on Monday, April 29, 2024. The meeting was also attended by the Deputy President of the Iraqi Turkmen Front, Mr. Haitham Hashim Mukhtaraoglu.**

BY IRAQITURKMENASPECT ON APRIL 30, 2024



At the beginning of the meeting, Turan congratulated the successful formation of the local government in Salah ad Din province and emphasized the real need for construction and service projects to improve the service situation in the province. The discussions focused on the importance of enhancing projects and services, supporting development opportunities and stability, as well as maintaining national balance in the executive management of the province. The meeting also highlighted the necessity of concerted efforts to provide services in the districts, sub-districts, and Turkmen areas, which comprise a significant portion of the province. The Turkmen delegation renewed their commitment to defending national principles, supporting stability and coexistence, and preserving national achievements.

## Articles:

### Letter to a Friend in Exile



By Abbas Ahmad

To you who left in body but remain present in the core of our hearts. Even though you have departed from the place or the people, you are still spoken of dearly in our hearts; all the sad conversations and painful memories in our chests may one day suffocate us.

We miss you greatly, loved you dearly, and cherished your company. Love makes you feel for those who are unaware of you and those whom you don't notice, both paradoxically swinging between happiness and misery. The beloved rejects you, and those you care little for draw near, like a maze in loss, a tunnel with no end, like diving into a sea of pain and regret.

You will spend nights telling yourself that this difficult period will end tomorrow, and you will repeat this every day until you realize that you have surpassed various stages of exhaustion without any rest.

You who live in the exile of homeland and family, whenever you flee from a problem and struggle to forget, you stumble upon another, until you forget which period you were referring to and realized that it would end soon, only to discover that what truly ended was your energy and your days. Sometimes, even empty messages suffice and give us hope, as if they were telling us that we are remembered. My dear friend in exile, in friendship and love, we possess other souls that we care for more than our own.

We try to apologize to you not because we are at fault, but because we value the relationship of friendship and affection that binds us. If you hit someone even lightly, it may hurt them for a moment, but if you hurt them with words, it may hurt them for a lifetime. So, dear, do not replace the kindness in your heart with sadness or hatred just because the world is a harsh place; the world is harsh only because it needs more kind-hearted people like us and you.



So let's say to those who try to be arrogant and forget us, you can be as arrogant as you want but beware of being arrogant towards me, for I know your history well. Sometimes our hearts deceive us and we build a beautiful city from our dreams, only to discover as life passes by that our city of dreams was nothing but a heap of illusions, even though we loved it and it was as close to us as the ribs that bend to protect the heart.

When will you return, oh expatriate in God's land? Greetings we send, and peace we emit from the remnants of memories. Peace to the tranquility that precedes your arrival, to the calmness that you spread around with your coming, to the peace that radiates light from the days and nights we spent with you, and to the hidden joy that resides in your details, to the spiritual beauty that overflows from you, to the thirst of souls to drink from the fragrance of the days we spent together.

And here I am, remembering my days with you and with them, you know them well, for I am looking for a professional diver to gather all the good I did for others and then throw it into the sea, for all the arrows that hit my heart before my mind were fired from close by, and then I wonder what if the person I left to sleep sad and ate his right doesn't know any way to reclaim his right except to raise his hands to the sky and complain about you to the Judge of judges.

Then the march of darkness stops, the anxiety clears, the troubling dreams evaporate and the morning of reunion dawns anew as if asking you, where have all your fears gone, sad one? You thought the darkness would never end but by a sign from the Merciful, the dawn bursts forth spreading light and dispelling all your doubts, praise be to God always and forever.

Dear friend, we have become accustomed to waiting, until we forgot what we are waiting for, and accustomed to pain, until we forgot what pains us. Just as the stability of the wick inside a candle allows it to burn, so too, only those who have seeped into the depths of our depths can burn us. I do not hurt for those who have changed towards me, for they changed because I filled them with esteem and care until they were satisfied. When a person cries, they do not cry only for the reason that made them cry but for all the things they didn't cry for at the time.

Indeed, he thinks he is punishing me by not caring, and I only see that he is offering me forgetfulness effortlessly.

It is truly unfortunate to search for sincerity in this era and to look for loyalty in cold hearts, and it is unfortunate that there is no one left to go to when we do not know where to go.

Everything can be hidden, except the expressions of the eyes when they yearn, love, grieve, and miss someone dear who resides in the heart. Please, do not argue with me about a person you see with your eyes and I see with my heart for hearts never see flaws.

Do you remember when

we were young, they taught us that the owl is an omen, the crow brings ruin, the fox is cunning, the wolf is treacherous, and the camel harbors grudges in its heart, but we were taught things about animals that we never found in animals, and when we grew up, we found them only in humans.

So do not be surprised, dear, and do not give up on a heart that loved you, because hearts have become bankrupt and it is difficult to find a heart that gives you love, happiness, and loyalty, for those hearts that give without expecting anything in return are few.

Oh expatriate, present within my soul and mind, when I talk to you, the pulse has another meaning, even if a continent separates us, the difficulty of explaining the feeling is enough to keep you silent all the time.

My dear friend,

The difficulty of explaining the feeling is enough to keep you silent all the time,

And when I talk to you, the pulse has another meaning,

Even if a continent separates us,

And because your soul is close to mine,

I am certain,

That everything you think of passes through my mind,

Please do not care about the darkness of your days,

For your soul will shine again just as the morning shines after the darkness,

Time passes by us feeling nothing,

Nothing catches your attention, nothing attracts you,

You feel nothing, nothing saddens you, nothing angers you,

As if the heart and the mind have stopped everything,

The mind refuses to think, and the heart refuses to feel,  
You are overwhelmed by a feeling of indifference,  
You do not know if you are alive,  
Or forced to live,  
I am the enemy of crowded places,  
And of consumed people,  
And of meetings filled with hypocrisy,  
And of harsh people,  
I am a friend of simplicity,  
Of spontaneous and gentle people,  
Of quiet laughter,  
And of deep relationships whose owners it is impossible for them to change,  
Look at the sky as much as possible, and your thoughts will become bright and clear.  
Stay calm and silent, and tranquility will come to your heart, and your soul will enjoy peace  
and serenity...