



## Al - Haboby Foundation for Iraqi Students and Youth - Thi Qar

### Universal Periodic Review

#### Background

Childhood is one of the most important stages of a person's life, the child has the essentials necessary skills to complete his life naturally and to achieve goals that he paints in later stages of life. Therefore, this stage must be a happy stage, and the child must have all his rights. A child is often violated for many of his rights.

The environment indicate a deteriorating health, education and environmental situation in general. The first survey on the living conditions of the family in Iraq since the war in 2003, in one of the studies submitted by the Ministry of Planning announced the tragic situation experienced by Iraqis.

A significant reduction in the level of services compared to what was the case before the fall of the former regime. The results showed that only 54% of households had access to drinking water, and only 37% had access to adequate sanitation. This is a drop of 75%. This reflects a clear decline compared to the level of the world.

Within the educational level, the results of the survey showed a decrease in the enrollment rates of children at all stages of the study. The proportion of educated people aged 15 years and over was only 65%. In addition, 22% of people did not attend school at all, although basic education in Iraq is compulsory.

The survey showed that 8% of the population was diagnosed with chronic diseases. The results of the survey showed that 18% of children suffer from malnutrition, 8% of acute malnutrition and 23% of chronic malnutrition.





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about 4 million and 500 hundred thousand Iraqi children are displaced in search of how to restore their quiet and stable lives before they exposed to violence after the crises that happened many times in Iraq (like Samara events on 2006 and ISIS events on 2014 etc).

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs estimated that there were 4.5 million orphans in Iraq, 70% of whom lost their families and later became vulnerable to violence. About 600,000 children live on the streets from anywhere to feed or feed for survival. The orphanages, which suffer from neglect and the lack of most necessary necessities needs, have very few children compared to the large number who need for Shelter.

Children need to enjoy rights no less important than those enjoyed by adults, and need special care to protect them from abuse. Thousands are subjected daily to abuse, denial of education and sexual abuse, and are exploited in various types of work Drug promotion and abuse.

All the problems mentioned are constantly increasing, so it considered a dangerous indicator that threatens Iraqi society in general and children in particular.

Al - Haboby Foundation for Iraqi Students and Youth in Thi Qar one of Iraqi NNGO covered Thi-Qar governotare deal with Students, women and children, involved in various projects such as teacher training on how to manage classes In partnership with call child org, empowerment of women candidates for elections, The Education for All (Education for Girls) project is designed to encourage families to allow girls to attend school and not to be denied education and women for fair legislation in partnership with UN Women, Wash project which implemented to support schools in Thi-Qar through the partnership with UNICEF.

Al - Haboby Foundation for Iraqi Students and Youth in Thi Qar in cooperation with Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Thi Qar, conducted a field survey to monitor some of the violations currently being committed against children.

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Thi- Qar province suffered from a lot of problems mentioned above. Many violations of children's rights occurred and are still occurring. The demographic change in the governorate, (where Thi -Qar governorate received about 8823 IDP families after the events of Samarra on 2006 and about 2,600 IDP families after the events of 2014), a significant impact in increasing the population in Thi-Qar, thus the inadequacy of public services, health services, schools, poor living standards etc. which in turn led to the violation of the of child rights and the difficulty of access to many of their rights.

## Types of child rights violations

There are several types of violations that have been observed by Al - Haboby Foundation for Iraqi Students and Youth in Thi Qar Governorate which the following:-

**Physical abuse:** the child is beaten and defamed by a series of unacceptable and immoral practices as well as denial of access to food, drink and shelter. These violations may reach wounds, fractures, bruises and sometimes distortions. This is what was observed during the meeting with some homeless children at street intersections (who practice begging or clean the car glass).

**Psychological abuse:** such as screaming and constant intimidation of the child and blame and threats and discrimination between children and others, which greatly affect the psychological state of the child has reached a state of depression or psychological illness or isolation from the outside world. Psychological abuse: such as screaming and constant intimidation of the child and blame and threats and discrimination between children and others, which greatly affect the psychological state of the child has reached a state of depression or psychological illness or isolation from the outside world.

**Mental abuse:** It is a violation of children's rights to access education and increase knowledge and culture, which is one of the most violations affecting the future life of the child. Many of the problems of monitoring in education, where the number of students who drop out of school.

### Violations of children's rights

- The participation of children in conflicts or disputes between people, and exploitation of them to do some harmful practices to them. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights pointed out that there are a number of children have been involved in a number of tribal conflicts, increase The number of delinquent children (juveniles) Who have been convicted and imprisoned.
- Child labor is one of the most widespread manifestations of children's rights. The child is exposed to a lot of physical and psychological fatigue, in addition to exposing him to many dangers and harsh conditions. Children resort to work due to neglect by their parents, in addition to extreme poverty and the need of their families. As a result of parental ignorance or inability to afford tuition.
- Denying the child from completing his studies or permanently depriving him of education resulting from the parents' lack of interest in their children or the result of ignorance and lack of access to education by the father and mother, as well as the dropout of children from schools resulting from violence inflicted on children by teachers or other students at school.

Education in general suffers from many problems, For example, the most prominent problems for the academic year 2017 - 2018:-

The number of primary schools in Thi-Qar governorate is 1310. This number is not sufficient to meet the needs of students in education.

The number of elementary school buildings is 931, which is very small compared to the actual number of students. This has resulted in overcrowding of schools and classrooms, Some buildings are exploited by two or three schools and thus affect the number of hours of study.



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The number of students enrolled in the first grade of primary 81458, we did not notice that these numbers vary from year to year, this number does not match the number of available school buildings.

The number of dropouts from primary schools 6570 This number is increasing continuously compared to previous years.

Number of mud schools for primary schools 25 which are considered an unhealthy environment for the child.

The number of private primary schools 95 The enrollment of students in these schools cost the families large sums of money that most families in Thi Qar governorate cannot afford. Therefore, most families prefer to enroll their children in public schools despite their knowledge of most of the problems of education.

The number of public kindergartens is 32, it also insufficient to meet the needs of children.

Number of registered in kindergartens is 6586, Despite the improvement in awareness within the community of the need for children to get the education, but we that the number of children enrolled in kindergartens still few because a large number of families do not feel confident in the teaching staff capabilities as most of them need to develop their skills.

- Deprivation of play, which is part of the child's characteristics, so the child may be exposed as a result of this deprivation to many psychological problems such as isolation and lack of integration with other children in society.

- The danger of domestic violence is that it may result in violent and different reactions of child victims, not only physical abuse by the children, such as beatings, kicking and slapping, but also psychological threats, intimidation, domination, tyranny and hidden negative attacks such as negligence or economic deprivation Which leads children to commit crimes, displacement and abuse of alcohol and drugs to be vulnerable to sexual abuse and exploitation of psychological and physical weakness.

The ease of committing violence against children within the family makes it difficult to detect it because of the sensitivity of the subject, which leads to a low rate of reporting

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cases of abuse and denial of the attack and reporting to make these statistics or indicators relatively poor compared to what actually happens.

Despite the presence of specialized police stations ( police station of family and children)

- Lack of access to health care and treatment, as well as lack of psychological care and attention, Through field visits to hospitals and health centers throughout the governorate we can diagnose the health reality through.

It was found that most of the deaths of infants and children under five years are the contamination of bacterial blood, heart disease and pneumonia, in addition to congenital malformations, where the number of deaths of children 155 in 2017 and in 2018 is 71 died.

As well as the spread of genetic diseases as Thalassemia (anemia) where the total number of children with Thalassemia in the province of Thi Qar was 885 for 2017 and in 2018 after the death of 19 children because of this disease.

increase the childhood cancer has been observed in comparison to previous years. In 2017, there were only 4 infections and In 2018 is 11 cases were recorded, indicating that the percentage is increasing.

There is a clear increase in the number of preterm infants, which amounted to 2858 in 2017, a large number that does not match the number of incubators available to work in the 40 hospitals incubator only 21 disabled incubators in need of maintenance, this percentage is increasing continuously compared to previous years where the number of children Preterm infants for the first semester only 1475 of this year.

-Violating the rights of the child with special needs and not allowing him to integrate into society or to express opinion or even to receive physical therapy and other violations.

It is important that the child be protected from all practices that may harm him, such as racial, religious or any other form of discrimination, and foster a spirit of understanding, tolerance, peaceful coexistence, friendship and how to deal with peers in awareness programs.



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