IRAQ’s first-time candidature to the HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (2017-2019)
Hammurabi's Code, a collection of 282 laws inscribed on an upright stone pillar.

Hammurabi ruled the Babylonian Empire from 1792-50 B.C.E. He was concerned with keeping order in his kingdom; he keenly understood that to achieve this goal he needed one universal set of laws for all of the diverse peoples he governed. In the prologue, Hammurabi states that he wanted "to make justice visible in the land, to destroy the wicked person and the evil-doer, that the strong might not injure the weak."

The laws themselves support this compassionate claim and protect widows, orphans and others from being harmed or exploited. The code prescribes rules for family matters such as marriage, divorce, and adoption.
In 1920s the institution of slavery was abolished in Iraq.
In 1921 the establishment of the State of Iraq, King Faisal was the first king of Iraq, his reign continued from 1921 to 1933.

On 3 October 1932, Iraq became a member of the League of Nations.

In 1945:
- Iraq became a founding member of the Arab League.
- Joined the United Nations as a founding member.

In 1945 Iraq was a founding member of the World Bank.
On December 31, 1945, Iraq, as a founding member, signed the Articles of Agreement for the IMF.
In 1960 Iraq was among the five founding members of the OPEC.
• Naziha Dulaimi

She was an early pioneer of the Iraqi feminist movement, co-founder and first president of the Iraqi Women's League, the first female Minister in Iraq’s modern history, and the first woman cabinet Minister in the Arab world.

• Zakia Ismail Haqi

In 1959, she became the first female Iraqi judge. She fought for the cause of woman, children and civil liberties. She has published numerous articles and studies about the role of Iraqi women in accelerating the rate of economic development in the community.

• Thekra Alwach

Is the current Mayor of Baghdad, the capital of the Republic of Iraq, a city with approximate population of 7 Million. Alwach has a PhD in civil engineering and is a highly skilled technocrat.

• In 2004, Iraqi women filled 6 Cabinet Ministerial portfolios.
• There are 84 female representatives in the current Iraqi Council of Representatives (COR).
• 40% of the workforce in the Iraqi Foreign Service are women.
Women in Iraq...

• Zaha Hadid

Is an Iraqi-British architect. Her designs are displayed in exhibitions worldwide, and many of her works are held in important museum collections. She is known as an architect who consistently pushes the boundaries of architecture and urban design. Hadid has continued to be involved in academics, holding chairs and guest professorships at a numerus Prestigious Universities around the world.

• Image of the graduated first class of female officers in the Iraqi army in 1978.

• Woman in uniform casting their ballots during the national elections.

• Since 2003, Iraq held five national democratic elections forming five inclusive Governments, five Parliaments, elected three Presidents and appointed four Prime Ministers.
UNAMI - World Interfaith Harmony Week: Unity in faith and culture, unity in being Iraqi.
Week of February 2, 2016.

- The Christians of Iraq are considered one of the oldest continuous Christian communities in the world.

- A Yazidi boy kisses a figure of a black snake at the entrance of the Temple of Lalish, the most holy site of the Yazidi religion in Nineveh Province village of Lalish, Iraq.

- A Bar Mitzvah ceremony in Iraq, circa 1963. The names of months in the Jewish calendar originate from the ancient Babylonian calendar; Jewish Iraqis have lived in the region for thousands of years, as early as the Sassanians of the Talmudic era.
Mosul has the highest proportion of Christians of all the Iraqi cities and contains several old churches, some of which originally date back to the founding centuries of Christianity.

- Imam Kadhim shrine, the two golden domes shrine located in Baghdad's neighborhood Kadhmiya, houses the tomb of Imam al-Kadhim (AD 745–799).

- Sabean–Mandaean have traditionally settled themselves in lower Iraq, primarily located in the Marshes on the two rivers, at al-Amara, Qal'at-Salih, Nasiriya, Suq al-Shuyukh and Qurna.
• The original Mustansiriya Madrasah (University), was established in 1227 AD by the Abbasid Caliph Al-Mustansir and remains one of the oldest Universities in the world.

• University of Baghdad (UoB) is the largest university in Iraq.

- Baghdad University College of Law is Iraq’s oldest and most prestigious institution, founded in 1908.
- Baghdad University College of Engineering, established in 1921.
- The Iraqi Royal College of Medicine, established in 1927.
- In 1957, these colleges all merged to become the University of Baghdad (UoB).

Cultural institutions

Institutions offering cultural education in Baghdad include:

- The Academy of Music,
- Institute of Fine Arts,
- The Music and Ballet school of Baghdad.

- Two ballet dancers from the Iraqi National Ballet performing in Iraq in 2007.
Culture, folklore and education in Iraq...

- **The Iraqi National Orchestra**
The Iraqi National Symphony Orchestra is a government funded symphony orchestra in Baghdad. Playing primarily classical European music as well as original compositions based on Iraqi and Arab instruments and music, the orchestra began as the Baghdad Symphony Orchestra in 1944 by Albert Chaffoo.

- **The National Theatre of Iraq.**

- **Baghdad has a number of museums including the National Museum of Iraq** - which houses some of the world's most impressive collections of artifacts and relics of Ancient Iraqi civilization.

- **Dar-Al-Aziyaa-Al-Iraqiyah, the Iraqi house of fashion.**
• English author Agatha Christie having breakfast on the hotel balcony overlooking the Tigris River in Baghdad.

• Iraq, Baghdad, Al Sarayah market, a vintage market that sells books, stationery, and clerical supplies.

Sports in Iraq

There are wide varieties of sports played and followed in Iraq. Football is the most popular sport in Iraq. Basketball, swimming, weightlifting, bodybuilding, taekwondo, boxing, kickboxing, and tennis are also popular sports.

The Iraqi national football team was the 2007 AFC Asian Cup Champions. Iraq is one of the most successful national teams in the Arab League, having a winning record totaling four Arab Nations Cups (1964, 1966, 1985, 1988). On the Asian level, Iraq is one of the powerhouses having won the AFC Asian Cup once (2007), the Gold Medal of the Asian Games (1982), three Gulf Cup of Nations (1979, 1984, 1988), and West Asia Championship (2002).

In 2016, Iraq Olympic football team qualified to Rio 2016 Olympic Games men’s football tournament from Asia.
Thank you for considering Iraq

H.E. Dr. Fuad Masum President of the Republic of Iraq, elected in July 2014

H.E. Dr. Salim Al-jabouri Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Iraq, elected in July 2014

H.E. Dr. Haider Al-Abadi Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq, appointed and voted on September 2014

H.E Dr. Ibrahim Al-Eshaqer Al-Jaafari Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, appointed on September 2014

H.E. Dr. Mohamed Ali Alhakim Ambassador Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

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Republic of Iraq will be a meaningful partner to your country at the Human Rights Council.