



# FINAL PROGRAM

## 2nd Scientific World Kurdish Congress (WKC2012)

Science and Culture for Progress in Kurdistan

زانست و کلتور بۆ پێشهکهوتنی کوردستان

**OCTOBER 11-15 2012 • ERBIL, KURDISTAN**

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## 2nd Scientific World Kurdish Congress Timetable

### April 2012

First announcement and call for papers

### 1 July 2012

Deadline for abstracts or full papers

### 30 July 2012

Authors notified of decision for paper acceptance

### 15 August 2012

Preliminary program and call for registration

### September 2012

Completed manuscript to the conference secretariat

### October 2012

Book of abstract and conference program

### October 11 - 15, 2012

2nd World Kurdish Congress in Erbil- Kurdistan

### February 2013

An edited volume will be published by NOVA Science Publisher, USA



## The Scientific Committee of World Kurdish Congress 2012 (WKC2012)

Prof. Alan Dilani, Ph.D., Architect/ Public Health, Stockholm-Sweden

Prof. Almas Heshmati, Ph.D., Economics, Seoul, Korea

Prof. Serwan Baban, Ph.D., Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources, KRG, Kurdistan

Dr. Carol Prunhuber, Ph.D., Journalist and Writer, USA

Dr. Adiba Isa, Ph.D., Odense- Denmark

Dr. Khalid Khayati, Ph.D., Linköping- Sweden

Mrs. Koestan Gadan, Ph.D., University of Oslo- Norway

## The Organizing Committee of World Kurdish Congress 2012 (WKC2012)

Minister Falah M. Bakir, M.Sc., Head of Department of Foreign Relations, KRG, Kurdistan

Prof. Alan Dilani, Ph.D., Architect/ Public Health, Stockholm, Sweden

Dr. Carol Prunhuber, Ph.D., Journalist and Writer, USA

Dr. Adiba Isa, Ph.D., Medical University, Odense, Denmark

Dr. Khalid Khayati, Ph.D., Linköping University, Sweden

Mrs. Koestan Gadan, Ph.D., University of Oslo, Norway

Mr. Chia Madani, M.Sc., Computer Science, Stockholm, Sweden

Mr. Tawfiq Rahman, Department of Foreign Relation, KRG, Kurdistan

# Science and Culture for Progress in Kurdistan

## 2nd Scientific World Kurdish Congress

### Erbil, Kurdistan, October 11-15, 2012



# Improving the Quality of Life in Kurdistan

Welcome to the 2nd Scientific World Kurdish Congress organized in partnership with the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) October 11-15th in Erbil. The goal of the WKC 2012 is targeted and over-arching: to further discuss cutting edge scientific, economic, cultural and health programs that will provide a solid foundation for all future, professional and scientific expansion within Kurdistan.

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to Kurdistan and to the 2nd Scientific World Kurdish Congress (WKC2012) at the Saad Palace Convention Center in Erbil.

As the Kurdistan Region undergoes significant economic and political shifts, it will be increasingly placed at the center stage of Middle East affairs—socially, economically and politically. Many countries in the region, such as Turkey which aims to become a member of the European Union, have recognized that in order to move towards strong and sustainable economic growth, progressive societies need to also be democratic societies that recognize minorities' rights. This equation must include the Kurdish population in the region.

A growing awareness of the importance of health promotion, along with the pressing need to invest in healthy and sustainable public, social, institutional and domestic development infrastructures for its people, is placing Kurdistan in the forefront of Middle East business and development opportunities. At this moment, Kurdistan is poised upon the leading edge of change.

The unique scientific focus of this Congress will offer delegates innovative and stimulating topics during a broad range of plenary sessions. As well, posters of the latest innovations and solutions in many fields will provide a unique opportunity for organizations and delegates to network.

Sessions are to include presentations by physicians as well as psychologists, architects, social planners, sociologists, agronomists, medical professionals, economists and political scientists. Our speakers will bring a wide range of perspectives on how to best serve our people and society with definable evidence and a scientific approach as Kurdistan continues its major developmental phase. The rich selection of conference sessions will highlight the importance and value of interdisciplinary presentations by Kurdish and non-Kurdish scientists from all over the world.

Topics to be addressed at the Congress will include the latest research findings in the field: health and medical science, agriculture, higher education, economics, politics, human rights, sustainable, healthy development and the infrastructure necessary to support the Kurdistan Regional Government in its mission.

The high quality of scientific research, as well as a fascinating range of case studies and cultural programs, ensures that participants will enjoy a unique, knowledge enhancing experience.

We appreciate your effort participating in the 2nd Scientific World Kurdish Congress. We wish you a rewarding and enjoyable congress in Erbil as you visit our county or greet your own country for networking with your new and old Kurdish colleagues.



Nechirvan Barzani  
Prime Minister, Kurdistan Regional Government



Alan Dilani,  
Chair of Scientific Committee  
World Kurdish Congress,



Falah M. Bakir,  
Chair of Organizing Committee  
Minister of Foreign Relations (Diaspora)

# 2nd World Kurdish Scientific Congress

## Thursday October 11th, 2012

14:00 - 18:00 Registration at Saad Palace Convention Center, Erbil

19:00 - 22:00 Welcome Dinner

Welcome Speeches

H.E. Falah M. Bakir, Minister of Foreign Relations (Diaspora),

Dr. Carol Prunhuber and Dr. Alan Dilani, WKC Founding Members

Cultural Performance

## Friday October 12th, 2012

08:00 - 08:30 Late Registration

08:45 - 10:00 Opening Ceremony  
Opening remarks by His Excellency President, Massoud Barzani

Introduction of the 2th World Kurdish Scientific Congress Science and Culture  
for Progress of a Healthy Society in Kurdistan

Alan Dilani, *International Academy for Design and Health (Sweden)*



10:00 - 10:30 Coffee/ Tea Break and Posters Display

10:30 - 12:30 Session 1: The Science of Healthcare Treatment

Chair: Rang Shawis (*Kurdistan / UK*) The Need for a Health Council for Kurdistan

Nawzad Saleh (*Sweden*) Focus on Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease in Kurdistan

Seddigh Zarza (*Austria*) Health Promotion and Prevention in Kurdistan

Kadir Hasan (*UK*) Tele Radiology in Breast Cancer Care in Kurdistan

Alan Fotoohi (*Sweden*) Clinical Pharmacology: A Medical Specialty for Efficient and Safe Use of Medicines:

How This Can Be Developed in Kurdistan

Adiba Isa (*Denmark*) The Crucial Role of a Center for Control of Infectious Disease in Kurdistan

Discussion

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch, and Posters Display

13:30 - 15:00 Session 2: The Science of Preventive Health and its Promotion

Chair: Mariwan Baker (*Denmark*)

Deiary Fraidoon Kader (*UK*) Orthopaedic Surgery Development and Rehabilitation in Kurdistan

Jamal Maroof (*Kurdistan / UK*) Sentinel Node Biopsy for Early Breast Cancer: Kurdistan's Experience

Rizgar Barzani (*UK*) The Relationship of Oral Health to Overall Health and Longevity

Koestan Gadan (*Norway*) The Impact of Stress on Immune System and Virus Replication

Nabi Fatahi (*Sweden*) The Migration Process and the Mental Well-Being of Immigrants

in the Resettlement Country: A Study of Kurdish Refugees

Discussion

15:00 - 15:30 Coffee/ Tea Break and Posters Display

15:30 - 18:00 Session 3: Challenges of the Kurdish Diaspora and Migration

Chair: Falah M. Bakir (*Kurdistan*) Minister of Foreign Relations

Khalid Khayati (*Sweden*) Kurdish Diaspora from Victim to Long Distance Nationalism

Hossein Aghapouri (*New Zealand*) Kurdish Online: Construction of National Identity in Cyberspace

Barzoo Eliassi (*Sweden*) We Kurds Did Not Come to Sweden to Become Swedish But to Continue Being Kurdish

Fatima Anamaghi (*Denmark*) Immigration and Identity Crisis among Kurdish Youth in Denmark

Ahmet Hamdi Akkaya (*Belgium*) Kurdish Diaspora: A New Subject Formation in Transnational Space

Discussion

## Saturday October 13th, 2012

08:00 - 08:30 Late Registration

08:45 - 10:00 Opening Remarks by His Excellency Prime Minister, Nechirvan Barzani

Introduction by Serwan Baban, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources

Agriculture and the Road Map to Self-Sufficiency in Kurdistan



# Preliminary Program



10:00 - 10:30

Coffee/ Tea Break

10:30 - 12:30

## Session 4: Restoration of Farming and Agriculture in Kurdistan

Chair: Serwan Baban (*Kurdistan / UK*)

Mahdy Barzinjy (*Denmark*) Medicinal Plants of Iraqi Kurdistan: A Scientific and Economic Evaluation

Soleyman Sahebi (*Australia*) Water Resources in 21st Century Kurdistan: Threats and Opportunities

Ali Barhoon (*Sweden*) School of Milk Production: Experiences from China and Bangladesh

Manuel Martorell/ Igor Urizar (*Spain*) The White Week: An Original Project for Rural Development

Discussion

12:30 - 13:30

Lunch, and Posters Display

13:30 - 15:30

## Session 5: Higher Education and E-Government in Kurdistan

Chair: Jakob Krarup (*Denmark*)

Farzad Sanati (*Australia*) Knowledge Society and Sustainable Quality Higher Education in Kurdistan

Diako Ebrahimi (*Australia*) Multidisciplinary Education in Kurdistan

Shereen Hakky (*USA*) Fostering Kurdish Innovation to Fuel Regional Development and Economic Growth

Zaigham Mahmood (*UK*) E-Government in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: Some Thoughts on Implementation

Shareef M. Shareef / Johnnes Arreympi (*Kurdistan / UK*) Mobile-Government for Enhanced Public Service Delivery in Advancing Economies: The Case of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI)

Wafa Khorsheed and Asad Khailany (*USA*) An Overview Of E-Government And Best Strategies For Adoption In Developing Countries

Discussion

15:30 - 16:00

Coffee/ Tea Break and Posters Display

16:00 - 18:00

## Session 6: The Kurdish Genocide, Our Mind and Reshaping Our City, Environment and Design for Public Spaces

Chair: Alan Dilani (*Sweden*)

Osman Ahmed (*UK*) Documenting the Anfal: The Kurdish Genocide (1988) Through Drawing

Jamal Hamid Zangana (*UK*) The Environmental Destruction of Iraqi Kurdistan

Ahmad Sohrabi (*USA*) New Mind and Brain Sciences: Implications of Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI)

Jamil Mardukhi (*Canada*) Advanced Design Methods and Materials in Civil and Structural Engineering

Parwez Zabihi (*UK*) Does Erbil Have the Potential to Become a Megacity by 2020?

Jangir Maddadi (*Sweden*) Design for Public Space to Enhance Social Interaction and Well-Being

Discussion

## Sunday October 14th, 2012

08:00 - 08:30

Late Registration

08:45 - 10:00

### Opening Remarks by His Excellency President of the Kurdistan Parliament Arsalan Baiz

A Review of the Regional Development Strategy for the Kurdistan Region 2012-2016,

Almas Heshmati (*Korea University, South Korea*)



10:00 - 10:30

Coffee/ Tea Break and Posters Display

10:30 - 12:30

## Session 7: Economic Challenges and Opportunities in Kurdistan

Chair: Almas Heshmati (*South Korea*)

Nazar Rasul (*Germany*) Strategic Foresight for Economic Growth and Sustainable Infrastructure in Kurdistan (Iraq): A Vision for 2030

Nabaz T. Khayyat (*South Korea*) Socio-Economic Impact of Landmines in Southern Kurdistan

Hogir Fatih Rasul (*Sweden*) The Role of Automation and Mechatronics in the Creation of a Modern Industrialized Nation

Mohammad Sharif Sharifi (*Australia*) Use of our Indigenous Kurdish Plants to Produce Antibiotics



12:30 - 13:30

Lunch, and Posters Display

13:30 - 15:30

**Session 8: Politics, Democracy, Power Sharing and Nation Building**

Chair: Joost Jongerden, (Netherlands)

**Niyaz Barzani (USA)** The Feasibility of an Independent Kurdish State in Iraq

**Sait Keskin (UK)** Kurdistan Regional Government: From Nation-Building to Nation-State Building

**Michael Gunter (USA)** Hierarchy and Interaction: An Analysis of Kurdish Political Groups in Turkey

**Marianna Charountaki (UK)** Turkish Foreign Policy towards the KRG

**Mahir A. Aziz (Kurdistan)** Power-Sharing and Consociational Democracy in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: 1998-2012

15:30 - 16:00

Coffee/ Tea Break and Posters Display

16:00 - 18:00

**Session 9: History, Culture, Language, Human Rights Education, and Social Policy in Kurdistan**

Chair: Mazhar Khaleghi (Kurdistan / UK)

**Jaffer Sheyholislami (Canada)** Language Selection as a Double-Edged Sword: Language Planning and Policy in Iraqi Kurdistan

**Kristiina Koivunen (Finland)** The History of Genocides in North and South Kurdistan, 1920-2010

**Zeynep Arslan (Austria)** To Be a Child of Non-Turkish Origin in Turkey: The Case of Kurdish Children

**Muslih Irwani (UK / Kurdistan)** The Politics of Social Policy: KRG's Experience in the Implementation of Social Security Programmes

**Boyan Hadjiev (Bulgaria)** Women's Role in the Development and Stability of Society

**Audrey Osler / Chalank Yahya (UK / Norway)** Human Rights Education in Kurdistan-Iraq: Enabling Teachers to Contribute to Processes of Gender Equity, Democracy and Development

**Monday October 15th, 2012**

08:30 - 13:00

**Session 10: Panel Discussion with KRG Ministers; Vision and Expectations  
Opening Remarks by His Excellency Prime Minister, Nechirvan Barzani**



08:30 - 10:30



**Rekawt H. Rashid Karim**  
Minister of Health



**Asmat M. Khalid**  
Minister of Education



**Ali Saeed Mohammad**  
Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research



**Ashti Hawrami**  
Minister of Natural Resources

Discussion with Audience

10:30 - 11:00

Coffee/ Tea Break and Posters Display

11:00 - 12:00



**Serwan Baban**  
Minister of Agriculture



**Ali Sindi**  
Minister of Planning



**Falah M. Bakir,**  
Minister of Foreign Relations (Diaspora)

Discussion with Audience

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch and Posters Display

14:00 - 18:00

**Session 11: Panel Discussion with University Rectors: Vision and Expectation**

14:00-15:00

University of Sallahaddin, Rector Ahmed Anwar Dezaye

University of Sulaymania, Rector

University of Dahouk, Rector

15:00 - 16:00

Discussion with Audience

16:00 - 16:30

Coffee/ Tea Break and Posters Display

16:30-18:00

University of Kurdistan, Rector

University of Kirkuk, Rector

American University in Sulaymania, Rector

17:30 - 18:00

Discussion with Audience and final close of the congress

19:30 - 23:00

Gala Dinner and Final Ceremony with Cultural Program

# Poster Presentations

- P01 Garif Yalak (Switzerland)** Is Kurdistan the Switzerland of the Middle East with Respect to Education?
- P02 Azad Raza, Sherow Raza and Bjarne Jorngird (Kurdistan/ Denmark)** Increased Biodiversity and Human Protein Supply by Introducing Quinoa in Kurdistan Farming System
- P03 Ayooob Khaleel Ismael (Malaysia)** The Importance of Promoting Entrepreneurial Activities among Rural Communities in the Kurdistan Region-Iraq
- P04 Sheini Saleem (USA)** Mast Cells Critically Augment Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cell Activity
- P05 Mahdy Barzinjy (Denmark)** A Comparison of Growth, Pod Distribution and Canopy Structure of Old and New Cultivars of Oilseed Rape (Brassica Napus L.)
- P06 Mahdy Barzinjy and Abdull-Salam Abdull-Rahman Rasool (Denmark/ Kurdistan)** Testing Performance of Winter Oilseed Rape under Climatic Condition of Iraqi Kurdistan Sulaymania District: An On-Going Research Project at the Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Agriculture
- P07 Kafia M. Shareef Surchi (Kurdistan)** Preparation and Utilization of Efficient Catalyst (zeolite) for Recycling Plastics
- P08 Karim Najar (Sweden)** Integrating CPV Technology with Infill Spaces in Our Cities
- P09 Erlende Paasche (Norway)** The Times of Return Migration
- P10 Wladimir van Wilgenburg (UK)** A Study of the Political Mobilization of Sunni Arabs in Kirkuk
- P11 Sam Hakki (USA)** Computerized Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation National Center in Kurdistan
- P12 Afsaneh Jolan (Australia)** Coping Strategies of Adolescent Muslim Girls Residing in Australia
- P13 Hakan Özoğlu (USA)** Final Years of Molla Mustafa Barzani in U.S. Intelligence
- P14 Chemen Bajalan (Kurdistan)** A Comparative Study of the Kurdish Minority Rights to Language in Iraq and Turkey
- P15 Süleyman Şanlı (Turkey)** A Forgotten Heritage: The Jews of Kurdistan
- P16 Hamid Teimouri (Sweden)** Impact of the Language Barrier in Integration of Immigrant Children into Public Schools
- P17 Aziz Mamoyan (Russia)** Language as a Main Ingredient of National Identity
- P18 Kaziwa Salih (Canada)** Importance of Communication Skills in Collective Identity Formation: The Case of the Kurds
- P19 Yvonne van der Bijl (Netherlands)** European Tourism in Kurdistan KRG
- P20 Dylaan Dowlati (USA)** How to Promote Health Care in Kurdistan
- P21 Ava Homa (Canada)** From Ethnic to Political Genocide of the Kurds: Is Genocide Preventable?
- P22 Salar (Shoresh) Mamli (Iran)** Introduction to Creative Industries in Kurdistan: Definition, Impacts and Policy
- P23 Soma Ahmad (Austria)** Role of NGOs in the Democratisation Process of Iraqi-Kurdistan
- P24 Sarook Akram Saeed Sarky (UK)** Planning for the Development of a Nascent Ecotourism Industry in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: A Preliminary Stakeholder Analysis
- P25 Nabaz Rasheed Khwarahm (UK)** Spatio-Temporal Variability of Two Key Aeroallergens and their Relation to Meteorological Variables in the United Kingdom
- P26 Thomas Schmidinger (Austria)** The Kurdish Diaspora in Austria and its Use of Media and an Imagined Kurdistan
- P27 Chato Rasool (Sweden)** Linköping University in Sweden Offers Kurdish Students PhD Studies
- P28 Asmaiel Mersham (South Korea)** Challenges and Effectiveness of KRG and Iraq Participants in KOICA Development Program
- P29 Jeffrey John Barnes (USA)** Remembering Genocide: Online Memory of Anfal and Halabja and the Next Generation of Kurdish Citizens
- P30 Fazil Moradi (Germany)** The Ba'th Regime's State of Exception: Configuration of de facto Sovereignty or Operation Al-Anfal
- P31 Edith Szanto (Kurdistan/ Canada)** Preaching Piety in Sulaimani
- P32 Bayar Mostafa Sevedeen (Bayar Dosky) (Kurdistan)** KRG & the Kurds of the Neighboring Countries: Political Tendencies of KRG towards the Kurds of Turkey, Iran and Syria since 2003
- P34 Mari Toivanen (Finland)** Kurdish Diaspora throughout Western and Northern Europe
- P35 Sevin Gallo (USA)** Modernity and Honor Violence: The Case of Turkey and the Kurds
- P36 Mukkader Baran (Turkey)** The Self-Esteem and Loneliness of High School Students: A Case from Hakkari
- P37 Fereydoon Rahmani (Canada)** Kurdish Nation and its Quality of Life: A Field Analysis within the Kurdish Population 1999-2011
- P38 Ibrahim Sadiq (UK)** Apology as the Pathway to National Reconciliation
- P39 Maria Six-Hohenbalken (Austria)** European Travel Accounts as Sources for Comparative Studies in Natural Sciences and Humanities
- P40 Newzad Karim (USA)** In Search of Kurdish Democracy
- P41 Ayar Ata (UK)** Kurdish Forced Migration and Displacement since 1918 and Formation of the Kurdish Diaspora in the UK
- P42 Dihad A. Marf Zamua (Netherlands)** Ancient History, Culture of Arbela in Light of Archaeological and Historical Evidences
- P43 Mohammed Reza Setare (Iran)** Fermion Particle Production in Dynamic Casimir Effect in a Three Dimensional Box
- P44 Amjad Alipanah (Iran)** Homotopy Perturbation Method for Solving Population Balance Differential Equation
- P45 Abdul Hamdid Hakki (USA)** US Patent Pending Traffic Light
- P46 Selar Othman Ali (UK)** Quality Assurance and Effectiveness in Kurdistan Higher Education: The Reform Process
- P47 Newzad Karim (USA)** Kurdish Population Growth
- P48 Rahimi Esmaeil (Iran)** ATP Sulfurylase from the Hyperthermophilic G. Kaustophilus
- P49 Hama Biglari (Sweden)** Timbral and Melodic Characteristics of Kurdish Singing
- P50 Ayyoub Ahmadzadeh Bokani (Australia)** Developed Computer Networks in Southern Kurdistan Based Upon Implemented Technologies in Developed and Developing Countries
- P51 Mosleh (Showan) Rostami/ Sassan Zhian (Iran)** Application of Public-Private Partnerships to Develop Infrastructures in Kurdistan: Requirements, Challenges and Suggestions
- P52 Galina Jalal (Denmark)** OR: A Tool for Further Development of Kurdistan

## Session 1: The Science of Healthcare Treatment



### Prof. Alan Dilani PhD (Sweden)

PhD of Health Facility Design and Policy, from the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, founder and General Director of the International Academy for Design and Health (IADH) and the Journal "World Health Design". Author of numerous articles and books in the field of Design and Health. Received the 2010 Award from the US Academy of Architecture for Health for his promotion of high quality design research.

### The Challenges of Creating a Healthy Society in Kurdistan

#### Abstract

The health status of people living in Kurdistan is low, with falling life expectancies and rising mortality and morbidity rates. At the same time, Kurdistan faces the challenge of reshaping its healthcare system due to a rise in the level of lifestyle diseases, most notably non-communicable illnesses like diabetes and obesity.

In addition, Kurdistan needs to address the inequities in the health of its poorer socio-economic groups, particularly those living in more remote and rural areas, as well as those moving to urban neighborhoods. By acknowledging that a healthy population is the foundation for social development and economic growth, Kurdistan's healthcare is undergoing the following policy shift: officials now recognize the need to redesign the health system so it embraces health promotion with a preventative approach based on better education, as well as evidence and research that prevent disease and promote better health.

A psychosocially supportive built environment provides a rapid return

on this investment because it improves health and wellbeing, which are the foundations of a productive society. Carefully designing our homes, workplaces, cities and towns will be an investment that pays Kurdistan back commercially by driving changes in its culture and lifestyle, thereby promoting health and wellbeing.

During the 66th meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations year 2011, the global socio-economic challenge of non-communicable disease was discussed for the first time. I strongly believe that the built environment has a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of our people. Also, the quality of our built environments will reduce lifestyle-related diseases and in turn, positively impact the Kurdish people.

A 'Salutogenic approach' to infrastructure development that is embedded at the core of a preventative health strategy is completely relevant to Kurdistan. Most importantly, it changes the overview or focus to a more holistic understanding of the importance of a healthy environment which our people need in order to embrace a cultural change that leads to healthier lives and more productive activity.



### Dr Rang Noory Shawis MB ChB, FRCS, M MEd (Kurdistan/UK)

Graduated from Mosel University, 1973. He trained in paediatric surgery in the UK and has been a consultant surgeon and a senior lecturer for over 25 years in the UK and UAE. He was the first Royal College of Surgeons - England Pediatric Tutor and worked as expert in medical education and training. He has published many medical articles and book chapters. Currently he is certification and education panel member and GMC partner. He is working on projects in UK and Iraq related to training and health planning. He is the project leader for a state of the art children's hospital to be build in Erbil in Kurdistan Iraq.

### The Need for a Health Council to Plan Health Reform in Kurdistan

#### Abstract

The healthcare system in Iraq was considered to be among the best among Third World countries until the end of the seventies. Over the past three decades, however, the healthcare systems in both Iraq and especially Kurdistan has gone through many constraints and obstacles due to the absence of governmental support and the lack of a clear vision. This led to the continuous deterioration of the quality and quantity of healthcare services provided to the public in the county.

After the fall of the past regime, the main objective of the Regional Government in Kurdistan was to help stabilize the situation and maintain the provision of health services to the public to the best of their technical and financial capacity.

Inappropriate short term patching, lack of a clear vision and a long-term strategy will further the deterioration of the health situation in

Kurdistan and complicate efforts to modernize its health service. Despite formidable obstacles and against the odds some quantitative improvements have been achieved.

Most have been done without appropriate and in-depth planning. Hence, some of the projects have not achieved the desired objectives despite the efforts and financial input.

It is a matter of priority for Kurdistan needs to review its health service and put in place a planned health provision reform. The review must address a range of obstacles to health improvement in Kurdistan.

In order to address the relevant issues and start the process of health reform in Kurdistan a Body/Council responsible for health development is urgently needed. The council will define the shape and structure of the healthcare system in Kurdistan and the development of strategies, policies and plans of actions for the Ministry of Health to improve the health conditions in the Kurdistan Region. The Kurdish Diaspora experts in various fields can play an important part in advancing and improving the health care in Kurdistan by engaging and participating actively in this endeavour.





### Prof. Nawzad Saleh PhD (Sweden)

MD at Karolinska Institutet, 2011. He is currently the Senior Consultant of Cardiology and Internal Medicine at Department of Cardiology, Head of Coronary/PCI and Valve Unit, Karolinska University Hospital, Sweden. His main research interests include risk factors for Ischemic Heart Disease, particularly inflammation and Diabetes mellitus.

#### Focus on Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease in Kurdistan

##### Abstract

Diabetes mellitus (DM) and associated cardiovascular diseases (CVD) are one of the leading causes of death and illness in our part of the world. The medical and economic burden of these diseases is enormous. The prevalence of DM is rising worldwide, and Kurdistan region is no exception.

Healthy choices, i.e. good food, physical activity, avoidance of tobacco use and avoidance of excessive alcohol can prevent or at least delay the onset of DM.

The medical profession should collaborate with politicians, health administrators and the media to inform the public about these simple facts.

Healthcare expenditures to treat DM and prevent complications impose a large economic burden on national health budget; currently, 97 percent of the health care budget goes to the diagnosis and treatment of established disease and a modest 3 percent to prevention of cardiovascular and other chronic disease prevention. The regional government in Kurdistan has established a designated centre for diabetes care in each of its three provinces which provide

basic care to huge numbers of patients with limited facility to diabetes screening and patient education.

Aim of this proposal is to preserve health interventions to reduce the burden of DM and cardiovascular disease, by making a transprofessional treaty between the medical professions (knowledge), politicians (decision-making power), public health officials and non-governmental organizations and the media (information and advocacy).

The treaty clearly underlines that those who signed the document are committed, through collaboration between politicians, national professional associations, and public health authorities to develop a national plan of work with the aim to achieve measurable targets with regard to the prevention of diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Further, the treaty is achievable only through lifestyle-oriented measures and population-based policy decisions, such as smoking bans and minimum terms of physical activity in schools to serve as an example. The treaty states that for different interventions to result in health-oriented behaviour, they must be on a solid scientific basis, and it is the professional bodies that should provide such documentation to facilitate the policy making process.



### Seddigh Zarza (Austria)

MD from University of Medical Science in Wien, Austria. Currently works as an anesthesiologist and ICU-specialist in a hospital in Wien-Austria. His interest focus is on health care policy related to Health promotion and preventive issues for Kurdish nation.

#### Health Promotion and Prevention in Kurdistan

##### Abstract

A country may only be called developed if the health of its population is strong and there are no differences between health of its various population groups. Use of the healthcare system in a nation by both the wealthy and those economically challenged is a crucial element.

One responsibility of a government is to organize a health system that is accessible to its entire population. This includes the organization of educational programs in which the notion of "healthy living" increases.

The national population must learn to live a healthy life. Prevention programs may include the following: prevention of infectious diseases; vaccinations against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Polio (DPT) Mumps, Measles, Scarlet Fever (BMR) and Malaria etc. The preventative care of the population up to the age of 40 should be aimed at prevention of cancer and cardiovascular diseases, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, DM-II preventative

programs against smoking and drugs and the promotion of healthy, nutritious diets.

Women up to the age of 30 need to be educated on: prevention and early screening of cervical carcinoma. Women up to and beyond the age of 50: prevention and early screening of mamma carcinomas through annual breast examination. Pregnant women under care at the gynecologist for the prevention and early recognition of HELLP syndrome includes the recognition of early recognition of trisomy 21 morbus haemolytic conjunctivitis and other chromosomal anomalies synthesis, early in pregnancy with amniocentesis test.

There is an urgent need for a nationwide, general insurance that is subsidized by the State. Otherwise a vast majority of the population with insufficient financial resources cannot participate in the above-mentioned programs. The number of subsidized clinics and hospitals are not sufficient to meet the needs of the entire population in Kurdistan. Thus, we are seeing an increased number of private clinics which are prohibitively expensive for many and not a realistic option.



**Kadir Hassan PhD, MB, ChB, FRCR (UK)**

Consultant Radiologist & Assistant Professor. Leads the Buckinghamshire Healthcare Breast Cancer Screening Programme for 7 years and has been chief of Radiology for 10 years. Has been helping Kurdish universities since 1994 as an honorary assistant professor.

### Tele Radiology in Breast Cancer Care in Kurdistan

#### Abstract

Objectives, Problems & Goals:

Breast cancer is a major global disease. It affects 1 in 10 women in Western countries. Kurdistan is lagging behind the modern advances in breast cancer care. What are the obstacles to achieve our goals?

1. No reliable data on the incidence of breast cancer.
2. No national breast cancer screening programme.
3. No national studies to assess the prevalence of the disease in areas that were subjected to chemical bombardment.
4. Lack of specialised medical expertise and facilities.
5. Lack of public awareness.

Methods & Results

We organised a first digital mammography unit in Hawler offering screening and symptomatic mammography for early diagnosis and management. Lack of technical expertise was solved by recruiting from outside Iraq until the local staff had satisfactory training.

The issue of professional expertise was solved by the returning Kurdish breast surgeons from the UK and utilizing tele-radiology

which works by converting images into Dicom digital data transferred through powerful broadband to the stations for expert reporting in UK. The full details will be explained at the presentation.

Conclusion

The project demonstrates the success of using foreign expertise to train local staff, using Kurdish resources outside the country and using modern technology to obtain professional advice.

Recommendations to achieve our goals:

1. Conduct a multicentre study about prevalence of the disease. Looking specifically at the incidence of cancer in areas subjected to chemical and biological bombardments.
  2. Create a national cancer registry office.
  3. Public awareness campaign.
  4. Larger and fully equipped breast cancer centres of excellence so Kurdistan can provide high standard one-stop service. The centre acts as a training college for the staff in breast cancer diagnosis and treatment.
  5. Introduce national breast cancer screening programmes.
- Keywords: Tele-radiology, breast cancer, mammography



**Alan Fotoohi PhD, MD (Sweden)**

Resident of clinical pharmacology at Karolinska University and postdoctoral fellow in the same branch at Karolinska Institutet. His research area is investigation of mechanisms of resistance to anti-cancer drugs. He has eight publications including original studies, review articles and a case report.

### Clinical Pharmacology: A Medical Specialty for Efficient and Safe Use of Medicines

#### Abstract

Clinical pharmacology is a relatively young scientific discipline that involves all aspects of the relationship between drugs and humans. Its breadth includes the development of new drugs, the application of drugs as therapeutic agents, the beneficial and adverse effects of drugs in individuals and society, and the deliberate misuse of drugs. Clinical pharmacology is a science that may be of significant interest to a variety of professions including physicians, pharmacists, nurses and scientists in many different disciplines. Clinical pharmacologists have many important functions in health care, academia, government and pharmaceutical industry. Through their knowledge, they bring benefit to both individual patients and society at large. Clinical pharmacologists have comprehensive and often specific pharmacological therapy, medical, statistical and epidemiological expertise, all of which form the basis of their excellence: Our goal

is to critically evaluate medicine from both the efficacy as safety perspectives.

Clinical pharmacologists have as their primary goal improved patient care, directly or indirectly, by developing better medicines and promoting a safer and more effective use of drugs.

Expertise in clinical pharmacology can deliver better healthcare for all populations.

The quality and outcome of conventional drug therapy in patient care can be greatly improved by using cost-effective and evidence-based treatment with drugs, according to the needs of patient populations and individual patients.

Not everyone knows what a clinical pharmacologist does, either in healthcare or in the public sector, the political arena and among decision makers. In this presentation, we will outline how the discipline of clinical pharmacology could help to improve the use of drugs in the delivery of health care.

Keywords: Clinical pharmacology, application of drugs



### Adiba Isa, PhD, Post Doctoral Medical Science (Denmark)

Holds a postdoctoral fellowship at Department of Clinical Immunology, University of Southern Denmark. She defended her doctoral thesis 2006 in infection disease unit, CMM at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm in collaboration with University of Oxford. She has 12 publications and 2 bookchapters.

#### The Crucial Role of a Center for Control of Infectious Disease in Kurdistan

##### Abstract

The control of infectious diseases is a prominent issue still in the 21st century in both developed and developing nations. We are continuously attacked by the emerging of new viruses (viruses, such as the avian influenza A, H5N1) and re-emerging of known infectious agents taking significant human and financial costs. Due to the context of global health, the issues related to the infectious diseases are on the agenda of world leaders and health policymakers. Therefore controlling the breadth of the infectious agents is critical for minimizing outbreaks. Establishing a Center for Infectious Disease (CID) is essential for help on control and prevention of the microbes and viral agents.

The CID should be a governmental institute, a national knowledge authority responsible for control of infections with a broad public health perspective. The missions of CID should be to reduce the impact of new infectious diseases, to protect people from the biological threat of preventable infectious diseases and to assist those living with an infectious disease in securing immediate and appropriate access

to healthcare. The main tasks of CID will be to monitor, identify and analyze the development of infections, help investigate and provide references and diagnostic laboratory services essential for the detection of the microbial and viral agents of public health significance, help prevent and control the infections, build and communicate with the health care sector in the affected area, interrupt the transmission of the infections, conduct and coordinate public health surveillance and epidemiological studies to assist in defining the infection. CID should provide technical assistance for developing and maintaining high quality local microbial and viral laboratory services, including consultation and training in state-of-the-art standardized laboratory procedures for local public health laboratory personnel. CID should also be engaged in scientific research and stay in close contact with other organizations such as WHO.

In this presentation, I will describe how such an organization can help the Kurdish government improve and control the incidence of infections with bacterial and viral agents and be prepared for the future.

Keyword; Infectious disease, control of microbial outbreak, health care system

## Session 2: The Science of Preventive Health and its Promotion



### Prof. Deiary Fraidoon Kader PhD, MD (UK)

Chair and founder of Newcastle/Gateshead Medical Volunteers Charity and Clinical Director of NE-OASIR Research group. He is a Consultant Trauma and Orthopedic Surgeon at Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Gateshead and Nuffield Hospital in Newcastle, UK.

#### Orthopaedic Surgery: Development and Rehabilitation in Kurdistan

##### Abstract

###### Background

The war in Iraq has resulted in the displacement of vast numbers of doctors and health care professionals, leaving a huge void in the number of suitably qualified and experienced surgeons.

###### Objectives

The purpose of the Newcastle/Gateshead Medical Volunteers (NGMV) is to work with local charities and local doctors/nurses to provide much-needed orthopaedic assessment and surgical services to local people in Kurdistan. We also aim to work closely with local senior orthopaedic surgeons to train the new generation of orthopaedic surgeons and raise the standard of care by training the local nurses and allied health professionals.

###### Method

Since April 2010 more than 60 members of our charity, which is based in Newcastle/UK, have visited Erbil seven times to provide

timely assessment, surgical intervention and follow-up services to patients with musculoskeletal problems. We have seen a total of 1240 patients with musculoskeletal problems at the clinic and performed 140 intermediate and major surgical operations of the hip and the knee joint. We have also organised formal and informal teaching sessions for doctors and nurses.

###### Conclusion

Our charity has been successful in helping a relatively small number of patients in Iraq. We hope to inspire more people to commit more time to similar types of projects.

###### Future Challenges

We hope to see further investment in the public hospitals and an improvement in the infrastructure. We think Kurdistan will benefit from building a database for patient's health record and establishing quality control over local and foreign healthcare providers. It is essential to develop a focus on primary healthcare and preventive medicine rather than depending on over prescribing. Our challenge will be to establish a system that will benefit a wider group of patients.



### Jamal Maroof MBCHB, FRCS (Kurdistan / UK)

Consultant Surgical Oncologist at Kurdistan Board of Medical Speciality (KBMS), Erbil, Iraq. Was a consultant Breast Surgeon at King Edward VII Hospital, Heatherwood and Wexham Park Hospital Trust, Windsor, Berkshire until 2011. His area of interest is minimally invasive and recent approaches in the management of breast cancer.

#### Sentinel Node Biopsy for Early Breast Cancer: Kurdistan's Experience

##### Abstract

###### Introduction:

One of the most important advances in staging and surgical treatment of patients with early breast cancer has been the introduction of Sentinel Lymph Node (SNB) as an alternative to Axillary Node Dissection (ALND).

SNB provides a minimally invasive approach to detect lymph node metastasis, thus defining a group of lymph node negative patients, sparing the morbidity associated with ALND.

SNB has been an established practice worldwide since early 2001. It was introduced to Kurdistan in 2011; however, its application in practice has not been without hurdles.

The aim of this study is to explore current difficulties and discuss effective ways to take this practice forward.

###### Patients and methods:

Between May 2011-May 2012, 32 patients were diagnosed with breast cancer (22 from Kurdistan and 10 from various parts of Iraq). Eighteen patients were identified to be eligible for SNB, the remaining 14 patient were excluded because of pregnancy or regional advance disease in the form of clinically palpable lymph nodes or positive axillary node FNA

Thorough discussions were held with the eligible patient and their relatives concerning the SNB concept. From 18 patients, only 8 patients consented to undergo SNB. The remaining 10 patients declined the offer due to difficulty in understanding the concept or because of the possibility of a second surgical intervention. Patients received 2ml of Isosulphane blue dye (Patent blue dye V) injected subdermally in to periareolar region 5 minutes before the operation. Axilla exposed through curved skin crease incision. After completion of SNB, breast conserving surgery or mastectomy was performed according to protocol.

Keywords : Sentinel node biopsy, breast cancer



**Rizgar Barzani M.Sc (UK)**

He completed his dental school degree in 1998 and worked for 6 years in a Stockholm public dentist clinic. In 2006 he left Sweden to work in a dental surgery office in Scotland. He has been working since 2007 at the Boston Dental Centre in Lincolnshire, England.

### The Relationship of Oral Health to Overall Health and Longevity

#### Abstract

The oral health and general health should not be interpreted as separate entities. Oral health is integral to general health. Oral health means more than healthy teeth and you cannot be healthy without oral health.

I have compiled a booklet of studies done mostly in the US and Europe. I can't underscore the critical effect of oral health on overall health and how oral health correlates to health and longevity. It has an impact because healthy people live longer and the quality of their lives is superior. There are a number of commonly known factors related to the study of health and longevity that almost everyone will recognise.

Some of them are a healthy diet, healthy lifestyle, exercise, elimination of harmful substances, such as tobacco, alcohol and drugs.

Every educated person in optimal health understands the importance and relationship between health and longevity. However, I suggest that there is another factor missing from this list -- one that plays an overlooked but significant role in overall health. This factor is dental disease and it has harmful effect on the body's health. I will briefly explain the relationship between oral disease and how it can effect our overall health. Oral diseases not only create teeth and mouth problems; they also have an impact on our lives.

Discussing problems without offering solutions does not have much value. I will offer some solutions to help address the problems of dental disease and its effects on overall health.



**Koestan Gadan PhD (Norway)**

Researcher at the Norwegian Veterinary School, Department Aqua Medicine (BASAM), Oslo, Norway. BSc in Chemistry, Science Candidate in Molecular/Cell Biology, University of Oslo. PhD thesis is in molecular immunology.

### The Impact of Stress on Immune System and Virus Replication

#### Abstract

Stress is well documented to activate the hypothalamus-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis and as a result, it releases corticosteroid stress hormones, in particular cortisol. Corticosteroids are immunosuppressive in all major vertebrate groups. There is a clear correlation between plasma cortisol levels and disease and mortality. In addition to affecting both innate and adaptive branches of the immune system, stress has been shown to affect infection by causing structural changes to the primary barriers of infection. Long

term stress effects reduced immune system resistance, as well as reduced feed digestibility indicative of altered organ function. The underlying mechanisms and the relationship between endocrine control, physiology and immune competence are addressed through a wide range of studies. In this presentation, the focus will be on the immunosuppressive effect of stress, related to virus infection and particularly viral replication. The study shows the importance of the early intervention to reduce stress in all levels of society and thereby the significant complication of development of the disease process enabling individuals to enhance their health and wellbeing.



### Nabi Fatahi PhD (Medicine) (Sweden)

PhD in medicine. Post doctorate researcher and lecturer at Sahlgrenska Academy at Gothenburg University Hospital, Department of Clinical Sciences in Sweden. 15 years experience in research on clinical consultation concerning communication with patients who cannot speak the resettlement native language. He has produced many scientific publications on depression symptoms dealing with the Kurdish refugee's mental health in Sweden.

#### **The Migration Process and the Mental Well-Being of Immigrants in the Resettlement Country: A Study of Kurdish Refugees**

##### **Abstract**

**Objective:** To study the mental well-being of Kurdish refugees in the resettlement country with respect to pre-migration, migration and post migrations factors. **Method:** Data was collected through four focus group discussions with Kurdish refugees from the Kurdistan regions in Iran and Iraq, eight women and nine men, aged 38-59 years. All participants were refugees and had spent 3-24 years in the resettlement country. The interviews, performed in the Kurdish or Swedish language, were digitally recorded with the participants' permission, transcribed and then translated into English by one of the authors (Nabi). Content analysis method was used for analysis and interpretation of the collected data. **Result:** Kurdish refugees experienced a number of difficulties and unpleasant moments related to the migration process. Discrimination, fear and anxiety, unknown future and powerlessness were some of the indicated factors in pre-

migration and migration stages. The process of the migration and the post-migration periods were associated with loss of social capital. Language barrier, cultural diversity, a feeling of not belonging, social and professional regression as well as discrimination were mentioned among a number of post-migration factors which affected the immigrants' mental well-being. Immigrants, who had succeeded in obtaining an occupation that was equal with, or at a higher level than their previous job in the home country were satisfied with their lives and had better self-esteem and mental well-being.

**Conclusion:** According to the result of the present study, the mental well-being of Kurdish refugees in the resettlement country was influenced by factors in all stages of the migration process; pre-migration, migration and post-migration. Altering of the immigrant's social and professional status had significant impact on their mental well-being. Social and professional regression resulted in lower self-esteem and well-being.

**Keywords:** Refugee, pre-migration, post-migration, discrimination, social capital, mental well-being, cultural diversity



### Khalid Khayati PhD (Sweden)

Postdoctoral fellowship at the Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity and Society (REMESO), Linköping University, Sweden. DEA (Diplôme d'Études Approfondies) in Political Science on Arab & Islam World, Institut d'Études Politiques, Aix-en-Provence, France, 1998. His dissertation on Kurdish diaspora in Sweden and France has been translated into Turkish by Avesta Publishing House, Istanbul, 2010.

#### Kurdish Diaspora from Victim to Long Distance Nationalism

##### Abstract

Today many diasporan populations reside in western societies. They have created considerable civil structures that function not only as a substantial means of integration in their residing societies, but also as genuine transnational institutions. Such institutions aim in one way or another, to affect the politics of their former homelands. This is especially true vis-a vis in the direction of democracy, the promotion of human rights and peace settlements via non-violence. In this respect, Diaspora is becoming a new example of global governance and arena of transborder citizenship.

With such transnational social fields, diasporan populations end up participating in the regime, legal and institutional system and political processes of two very different political systems. This participation is a challenging dilemma, especially when the two political arenas arise from different premises and represent contradictory political systems.

This is especially true when the country of settlement is democratic and the nation of origin is not a democracy with a less-developed societal organization. In such contexts, transnational civil organizations of immigrant and refugee populations appear as manifestations of particular social energies i.e. the awakening of human consciousness towards achieving peace, initiating a democratization process and promotion of a viable discourse of human rights and gender equality in their former homelands. Such individuals are often faced with social and political forces from their former societies that perceive the presence of such civil society organization as threatening their continued existence. For example, global civil society movements that work to promote gender equality, human rights or democracy in traditional societies are regularly confronted by local social forces that prefer to organize society based upon political ideas, leaving less openness to the possibility of political participation upon democratic grounds.



### Hossein Aghapouri (New Zealand)

PhD candidate of political and international studies at the University of Auckland. He has a Masters degree in International Relations at Allameh Tabatabai University in Tehran. He is working on Digital Diaspora, Nationalism and Online National Identity.

#### Kurdish Online: Construction of National Identity in Cyberspace

##### Abstract

With the emergence of the Internet, people are looking towards virtual communities as social loci for the re-negotiation and construction of their identities. The ambiguous and complex environment of cyberspace becomes a new arena for the articulation of the politics of recognition, generating hybrid collective formations, such as digital nations, virtual diasporas and other online communities of an ethnic/national orientation.

It is argued that "the Kurds have used the Internet, e-mail and social networking sites, for organizing protests, meetings, and 'nationalist projects.'" (David Romano, "Modern Communications Technology in Ethnic Nationalist Hands: The Case of the Kurds," Canadian Journal of Political Science, Vo. 35, No. 1 (2002): 127-149) The use of the Internet by the Kurdish diaspora and those in the Middle East represents what Benedict Anderson has called 'long-distance nationalism'. (Benedict Anderson, "Long-Distance Nationalism: World Capitalism and the Rise of Identity Politics," Centre for Asian Studies

Amsterdam. The Wertheim Lecture, 1992) Unfettered access to the Internet has allowed the Kurdish diaspora, and some in the Middle East to perpetuate the 'imagined community' that is Kurdistan. It allows disparate groups to "imagine themselves as nations" and provides a voice to those who otherwise would not have one. (Jaffer Sheyholislami, Kurdish Identity, Discourse, and New Media (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011), 79) Essentially, the Internet has diminished the importance of time and space by offering the Kurds a sort of 'cyber space' wherein they can express their identity and reinforce Kurdish nationalism.

In discussing political and sociological observations on Kurdish Diaspora communities through the lens of cyberspace, the paper tries to find out how Kurdish diasporic members have been creating (if so) a virtual nation, defined as community that communicates in the cyberspace whose collective discourse and actions are aimed toward the building, binding, maintenance, rebuilding or rebinding of a Kurdish national identity.

Keywords: Cyberspace, national identity, online Kurds, diaspora

## Session 3: Challenges of the Kurdish Diaspora and Migration



### Barzoo Eliassi PhD (Sweden)

PhD in social work and social policy. Researcher at the Centre for Middle-Eastern Studies, Lund University where he conducts research about Kurdish youth and immigrants in Sweden. He is currently working on a book *Contesting Kurdish Identities in Sweden: Quest for Belonging Among Middle Eastern Youth* to be published by Palgrave, 2013.

#### We Kurds Did Not Come to Sweden to Become Swedish But to Continue Being Kurdish

##### Abstract

Based on 50 interviews, this paper engages with identity formation among young people with Kurdish backgrounds regarding processes of inclusion and exclusion in Sweden and the Middle East. Hundreds of thousands of Kurds have fled Kurdistan and migrated to Western countries due to, among other reasons, violent conflicts, political persecution, mass murders, and repressive assimilation policy in Turkey, Iran, Iraq and Syria. Historical experiences and social inequities are important repertoires for the construction of belonging and identification among Kurdish youth in Sweden. Nevertheless, it is mainly through the intersection of a 'minoritized' Kurdish identity in the Middle-East and a 'minoritized' Kurdish identity in Sweden through which young people construct their identities. For Kurds, migration to Sweden involves once again occupying a minoritized position, not only as Kurds, but also as gendered and racialized categories such

as immigrants, "wogs", Muslims, Middle-Easterners and Orientals. Despite this minoritized position, Kurds face a significantly different political reality in Sweden where they can organize themselves around their national identity as Kurds and freely express their 'Kurdishness' without state-sanctioned harassment. This paper focuses also on those strategies that Kurdish youth use to defend and construct an exclusive Kurdish identity that result from everyday confrontations that occur between young Kurds and certain youth with Arabic, Persian and Turkish backgrounds in Sweden – with those who challenge, make inferior and deny the existence of the Kurdish national identity. While the youth praise the political freedom and democracy that prevails in Sweden and the political support that Sweden provides Kurds, they also question the structural inequality and ethnic relations of dominance and subordination that alienate youth and deny them access to full citizenship rights. This study is based on a forthcoming book entitled "Contesting Kurdish Identities in Sweden" that will be published by Palgrave.

Keywords: Kurdish youth, politics of belonging, citizenship, Sweden



### Fatima Anamaghi MSc (Denmark)

Has a degree in psychology-counselling, Koya University and specialized in youth migrants. She cooperates with human rights organizations and women's associations in northern Iraq against the practice of women and girls' circumcision. She hosted two TV-shows on local Koya TV, Iraq on Child Psychology and Social Psychology.

#### Immigration and Identity Crisis among Kurdish Youth in Denmark

##### Abstract

Frequency and duration of migration affects family structure and it also has psychological effects on the well-being of individual family members. Present studies by psychologists and sociologists confirm that migration has a complex impact on the mental health of children who are living in immigrant families and their parents who are also immigrants. It is obvious that problems facing children who grow up in immigrant families can be different than crises specific to childhood in a more normal home or country environment. In the case of migrations, even the crisis complexity may aggravate individuals over time. Several factors can affect the crisis magnitude. These include: cultural distance between home country and the country of migration, background of the people who migrated to the new country, the host country with immigrants, family structure, and many

other environmental factors.

Migration problems and cultural identity among Kurdish youth is one of the important issues which needs to be intensively focused upon in future applied research. The inability of teenagers to explain their cultural identity can often produce intense anxiety. This anxiety, in many cases, leads to unhealthy behaviour in youth and results in undesirable outcomes from the family and social point of view. Therefore in this study, the objective is to investigate the immigrant 'teenagers' behaviour and analyse encounters between two Kurdish cultures and the culture of Denmark as the host country. This will help us identify some factors that impact the identity crisis among the Kurdish youth and attempt to find optimal solutions to tackle the issues, alternatively reducing their negative effects through different preventive measures.

Keywords: Immigration, identity crisis, causal factors, mental health, preventive measures, Kurdish youths, Denmark





### Ahmet Hamdi Akkaya (Belgium)

4th year PhD student on the faculty of Political and Social Sciences, Ghent University, Belgium and MS in Sociology at the same university. BS in Sociology, Middle East Technical University, Turkey. His doctoral research deals with the development of the Kurdish national movement in Turkey and its socio-political impacts, in particular, on identity politics in Turkey.

#### Kurdish Diaspora: A New Subject Formation in Transnational Space

##### Abstract

In recent decades, a Kurdish diaspora has begun to appear and its emergence has influenced the nature of the Kurdish question. In the past, this has been a conflict mainly involving the Kurds and the states of the Middle East. Subsequently Kurdish communities have become very active in the diaspora, imposing themselves on the political agendas of most European countries. This change was most dramatic when the Kurds in Iraq began to develop self-government in 1991 which was recognized constitutionally after the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime. Iraqi Kurdistan turned out to be a

centre of attraction for the Kurds who were living in diaspora and in Turkey, Iran and Syria. The relationship between the diaspora and the homeland is addressed in this paper in the context of such changes. The aim is to study how the ongoing nation-building process in Iraqi Kurdistan affects the Kurdish diaspora. It explores how the long enduring Kurdish struggle for nationhood and the relatively new transnational space of the Kurdish diaspora can interact so changes can take place in both spaces. It is argued that the Kurdish diaspora has responded to the developments in homeland through different forms of diaspora circulation, rather than a return to homeland which was supposed in previous studies. This paper is based on the results of qualitative research conducted among the 'elites' of the Kurdish diaspora in Sweden, the UK, the Netherlands and Belgium in 2008.



### Prof. Serwan Baban PhD (Kurdistan)

Minister of Agriculture and Vice Chancellor of the University of Kurdistan Hawler. His academic and management career was developed through working in universities in the UK, the Caribbean, Australia and Iraq. He has founded and directed several successful research centers and institutes worldwide. He has published many journal papers, chapters in books and conference proceedings, as well as three books.

#### Achieving Sustainable Food Production and Security in the Kurdistan Region, Iraq; Challenges and Opportunities

##### Abstract

During the 1960's, 70's and 80's, Kurdistan was a region of agricultural produce and used to export it to the centre and south of Iraq as well as some neighbouring countries.

Unfortunately, the conflicts and years of unrest in the region in the past paralysed the agriculture sector and destroyed its infrastructure up until the uprising of 1991. From that date until 1996 farmers tried to improve this sector but the United Nations Security Council

986 Resolution of Oil for Food had a negative effect on Kurdistan's agriculture. Consequently, Kurdistan went from being a producer to a consumer in a short period of time.

This paper will discuss the process of rehabilitating and improving the agriculture sector through an objective Road Map which was developed based on a vision that aims to yield a locally produced healthy diet. The Process specifies the priorities, objectives, timeframes, mechanisms as well as the challenges and risks involved, it was developed based on consultations with specialists and stake holders.

## Session 4: Restoration of Farming and Agriculture in Kurdistan



### Mahdi Barzinjy PhD (Denmark)

PhD in Agronomy from the Faculty of Life Sciences, Copenhagen. Since 1991 he has been supporting Kurdistan's universities, by setting up the first website for Salahaddin University (2000-2004), supplying textbooks, seed samples and other teaching materials. He is currently involved in a research project in Sulaymani with Salahaddin University.

#### Medicinal Plants of Iraqi Kurdistan: A Scientific and Economic Evaluation

##### Abstract

The Kurdistan Region is well known for its wild medicinal plants, which have been used over decades by local people for their healing and medicinal properties. The discovery of the therapeutic effects of medicinal plants dates back to the time of the Neanderthal grave of Shanidar IV. A wide variety of medicinal plant products are currently available in local markets. There have been many efforts to classify and investigate the use of these plants for their medicinal use. Recently many scientific works have been published that have focused on extraction of active components. The chemical analysis of some medicinal plants revealed that these plants contain phenols, glycosides, tannins, flavonoids, carbohydrates, alkaloids, amino acids and saponins. Laboratory tests demonstrated the antibacterial activity of these plants extracts. To improve the utilization of the medicinal plants, there is a need to do intensive work which covers

surveying, identification, classification of and pharmacognostical and phytochemical analysis of these plants.

With the intensive search for new therapeutic substances from plants and the increase of plant-based drugs, it is expected that the demand of medicinal raw material from plants will increase rapidly. In Kurdistan the biodiversity of medicinal plants, cheap labor and low cost production will provide a unique opportunity to invest in the production of medicinal raw material from plants. This will undoubtedly provide an opportunity to provide the two newly constructed drug companies in Erbil and Sulaymania with some raw material, as well as the opportunity of exportation outside of Kurdistan. This will contribute significantly to the national income, in addition benefit the creation of new jobs in the area.

The above-mentioned facts demonstrate the necessity of starting a scientific project to establish a sound basis to deal with all aspects of preserving, identifying and utilizing these medicinal plants in a better and more productive way.



### Soleyman Sahebi (Australia)

PhD student since 2011 in Nanotechnology for advanced water treatment purposes. Masters in Environmental Engineering, Tehran University. He had several years experience as an Environmental Health Officer, as a project manager in the Ministry of Health and in water consultancy companies in Iran. He is a member of EAH, Environmental Health Australia and ESERA, European Science Education Research Association.

#### Water Resources in 21st Century Kurdistan: Threats and Opportunities

##### Abstract

Kurdistan's mountains and plateau which are characterized by heavy rain, snow fall and natural glaciers that act as a water reservoir for the Middle East which form the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, as well as other numerous smaller rivers. In the areas that the Kurds claim as a homeland, recently oil has become a brilliant element in supporting a recognized independence movement which can bolster the government and national infrastructure — but there is also water, lots of water, which will be a strategic commodity in the coming decades. Thus, there should be plans to build reservoirs and dams to store the water contained in the Region. In an area where water ranks above

oil as the most precious resource, management and water ownership are some of the most difficult and serious challenges that the modern Middle East, particularly Kurdistan, confronts at the present time.

Whereas Kurds hold the key to water security in a large area within the Middle East, water supplies for the people of the region, for sanitation, irrigation and power production can create threats and opportunities for both South Kurdistan, and ethnic Kurds in neighbouring countries who push for more freedom and independence. The importance of water can be as precious as oil. It can be a blessing or it can be dreadful, and the present and future handling of this essential resource needs to be carefully managed.

Keywords: Kurdistan, Middle East, water reservoir, water crisis, South East Anatolia Project (GAP)



### Ali Barhoon MBA (Sweden)

MBA in project leadership from the Royal Technical University (KTH), BA in Mechanical Engineering. Global operation manager at DeLaval AB, Sweden and responsible for set-up of the milking equipment factories in China, Latin America and supply chain organization in Russia. 16 year's career experience as Head of Quality, Production Manager, Project Manager and Operation Manager in *Ericsson, Scania and DeLaval International*.

#### School of Milk Production: Experiences from China and Bangladesh

##### Abstract

We offer a complete portfolio of dairy processing solutions and can supply everything from a single valve to a complete green field factory. We also take into account the different priorities of our customers, producing different production scenarios for specific needs. We reach dairies around the globe, applying our thorough technological know-how to help seize market opportunities and extend product ranges. The demand for milk and other liquid dairy products is expected to increase by around 30% from 2010 to 2020, meeting the demands of a growing population. Tetra Pak is committed to increase local milk production in developing countries by working together with small holding farmers and processors.

In 2008, the world faced a food crisis paradox. On the one hand, a limited supply of milk powder on global markets pressured dairy processors and caused prices to double. On the other, substantial quantities of milk were being produced by smallholder farmers in developing countries, but production was scattered and quality was mixed. With the idea of helping our customers achieve access to more and better milk, the idea of the 'dairy hub' was born – a way of linking smallholder farmers to processors as a cost-effective alternative to building large commercial farms.

Strong partnerships and an integrated value chain approach can help turn a milk crisis into an increase – strengthening local production, improving livelihoods and boosting nutritional outcomes along the way. Moreover, by twinning this model with school feeding programmes the societal benefits can be amplified. Kurdistan could benefit from this approach.



### Manuel Martorell PhD (Spain)

PhD in history, UNED University, Madrid and licentiate in Communication Studies, Autonomous University of Barcelona. Specialist in the Kurdish question and member of Tigris Association, he is author of hundreds of articles, three television documentaries and five books on the Kurds including *The Kurds, History of a Resistance*, first history of Kurdistan in Spanish and Kurdistan.

#### The White Week: An Original Project for Rural Development

##### Abstract

Historically the people who form part of the Spanish Kingdom have looked to Latin America, forgetting the Middle East. Unfortunately, this remoteness has increased due to the continuous waves of violence and the war in Iraq. This situation has also had an effect upon the links of Spain with Kurdistan.

The Tigris Association is persuaded that using a dynamic cultural method, we can change this situation with the goal of strengthening the links with Kurdistan in both municipal and regional administration. Thus far, our association has spent two years implementing the cultural program: 'Kurdistan: Hidden Face of the Middle East'. Our aim with this program is to show Kurdistan as an example of cultural and religious diversity in this part of the world.

This program has already been implemented in cultural centers, universities, secondary schools and civic associations in Spain.

We assure you that the people who participate in these activities change their point of view about Kurdistan. Of course, business and international agreements are very important, but first we must win the battle of public opinion.

For this program, we have met with town council officials and the Navarre Regional Government. We have implemented the original project in order to boost economic development of poor and abandoned rural areas.

What are our objectives?

- To bring the program to more municipalities
- Garner new agreements with more municipal councils
- Improve the relations between both regions

This project has two great outcomes:

- Kurdistan can gain from the extensive and successful experience of self-government in the Spanish autonomous regions
- These relations can be the basis to build a bridge with Latin America, improving Kurdistan's presence in the international arena

## Session 4: Restoration of Farming and Agriculture in Kurdistan



### Igor Urizar (Spain)

Member of Tigris Association (Spain). He has worked for six years in the Roncal Valley Ski School in Navarre and created the program called "White Week," (a project for rural development) destined to promote respect and acceptance through sport among school children of different cultures of this autonomous region. He trained in Nordic Skiing, a sport variety also known as "sustainable skiing" which respects nature and is non competitive.

#### The White Week: An Original Project for Rural Development

##### Abstract

Spain and Kurdistan are experiencing similar situations in their rural areas. As is occurring today in Kurdistan, in Spain many inhabitants have left their lands in the mountains and rural areas to move into large cities. Consequently, villages have died after being abandoned. Thirty years ago, Navarre's Government, an autonomous region close to the Basque Country, began to implement an original program called *The White Week* to renew the economic life in these vacated rural areas.

This program brings together thousands of school children from different areas of the region, with different cultural backgrounds, to live together in a mountain valley. For one week, together they practice Nordic Skiing and other sports and participate in cultural activities.

On the one hand, *The White Week* has revitalized the economy in these poor and abandoned mountain areas by maintaining the activity of shops, restaurants and hotels. On the other hand, the program develops a spirit of brotherhood among children from

different cultures, like Spanish, Basques, Latin American immigrants and Muslim people from the North of Africa.

In 2010, the Tigris Association with the collaboration of the Navarre Regional Government and the Municipal Council of Isaba in the Pyrenees mountains, where the Navarre Government implements the Program, introduced this rural program for development and cultural integration in Penjween, Kurdistan-Iraq. 40 pairs of skis and other materials were sent to Sulemania and the first classes took place in 2011 in Penjween. The courses continued this year. Our hope is to extend this initiative through the whole Kurdistan Region.

We have three main objectives:

- Promote economic development in poor rural areas with Nordic Skiing. In the future this could attract new tourist activities
- Ensure children learn to live together regardless of differences in culture, religion and place of origin (birth)
- Establish a rapprochement between political and educational authorities from Navarre and Kurdistan, in regional and municipal fields



### Farzad Sanati PhD (Australia)

A lecturer in Business Intelligence at the Faculty of Engineering and IT, University of Technology Sydney (UTS). He is also a research associate at the Centre for Quantum Computation and Intelligent Systems (QCIS). He has over 14 years of experience as professional ICT analyst working in medium to large scale projects for Australian financial, and government sectors.

#### Knowledge Society and Sustainable Quality Higher Education in Kurdistan

##### Abstract

In the fast-moving world of today, the quality of higher education is fundamental to a sustainable economic development. Sustainable growth of investment in the quality of higher education is considered of prime importance to scientific and economic development. The challenge in developing and underdeveloped countries usually begins with a shortage of skills resulting from two important issues. 1) the lack of prolonged sustainable investment in the quality of higher education, 2) the outward migration of highly educated and skilled personnel (brain drain). This study points out the typical short-comings of developing countries and the underdeveloped regions such as Kurdistan that cause the aforementioned problems. I reference the achievements of India in creating a growing Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector that mainly relies on growing sustainable expansion of research in ICT. This study suggests a possible solution

that may be adopted in order to overcome the impediments of creating a sustainable knowledge society. This solution involves the establishment of a world class integrated research centre in order to boost the capability of the Kurdistan Region This would enable Kurdistan to achieve a sustainable high-quality, tertiary education system. This paper proposes the establishment of the Kurdistan Information Technology Research Centre (KITRC) as a pilot project and starting point for creating an integrated centre that covers a large variety of scientific fields.

The need for digital literacy is increasing and changing rapidly. This requires a steady focus on the individual's capacity for being able to keep up with ICT developments in their society. Digital literacy is about the ability to utilise the opportunities generated by ICT, and use them significantly and innovatively in education and work. Today there is a huge discrepancy between the proportions of people in underdeveloped and developed countries that have access to quality higher education.



### Diako Ebrahimi PhD (Australia)

PhD in Chemistry, University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia. He was awarded a fellowship from the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council. He is currently working as a research fellow at the Faculty of Medicine, UNSW. He has published many peer reviewed journal articles and is supervising two PhD students.

#### Multidisciplinary Education in Kurdistan

##### Abstract

Science can be divided into three main categories: basic science, engineering and humanity. Each field is further divided into other disciplines such as chemistry vs. physics and mechanical engineering vs. electrical engineering. In a traditional educational system, each discipline works independently; collaboration between disciplines is limited. This limitation exists not only at the academic level, but also extends to the administrative sector. For example, a graduate in mathematics receives almost no education in biology. Thus he is denied the possibility of enrollment in a postgraduate course in the school of biological science despite being passionate about applying his/her skills in math to solve complex biology problems. Graduates of such an educational system have a more narrow field of expertise. Thus such graduates cannot relate to a broader scientific community. Studying the same subject for many years can lead to boredom and dormancy when one cannot extend the subject's scope of study

beyond what is appraised by a handful of colleagues. Creativity, novelty and significance of research and education are adversely affected in a traditional educational system. As a consequence, the general populace will eventually be disadvantaged as well.

Multidisciplinary education is fundamental in this modern-age education. Many discoveries and developments in the past centuries have resulted from multidisciplinary research and collaboration between teams with diverse backgrounds. In modern science, the traditional borders between disciplines fade as evidenced by the emergence of fields such as nanobiotechnology and biophysical engineering. One exciting and growing interdisciplinary field is the study of human history (development, migration and settlement) by genetics. There is no doubt that genetic studies can shed light upon many unanswered questions about the history and demography of an ancient and diverse nation such as the Kurds.

Keywords: Multidisciplinary education, dynamic society, advanced society

## Session 5: Higher Education and E-Government in Kurdistan



**Shereen Hakky (USA)**

Master's from George Mason University's School of Public Policy. BS in Conflict Analysis and Resolution, with a focus in International and Macro Conflict. BA in Global Affairs, with a focus in diplomacy and governance, George Mason University. Internship at the Department of Commerce and volunteer work with the Iraqi Red Crescent Society. Currently Director of Operations with Hakki Medical Technologies.

### Fostering Kurdish Innovation to Fuel Regional Development and Economic Growth

#### Abstract

Globalization and advances in science and technology have expanded the importance of intellectual property. Universities provide synergistic and innovative technologies that enable governments to leverage changes through funding and policy. Policy includes the development of laws to facilitate research and innovation, including a patent system. Resourcing includes government grants, tax incentives, loans, and scholarships targeted to encourage research in areas the government

deems beneficial. Research can potentially provide improvements to issues that are specific to Kurdistan, such as agriculture, medicine, the education standards, and petrochemicals. Universities in Kurdistan should address the concerns within the Region to develop the local economy. As the situation in Kurdistan improves, the KRG can leverage the expertise, research infrastructure, and experience at its universities to solve regional problems and foster economic development. The creation of Technology Development departments and intellectual property laws are vital aspects of this process, and they are investments that will contribute to the long-term viability of Kurdistan's economy and infrastructure.



**Zaigham Mahmood (UK)**

Reader in Applied Computing and Assistant Head of Distributed and Intelligent Systems research group at the University of Derby, UK. He has published many articles. His latest book *Cloud Computing for Enterprise Architectures* was published in 2011. He is currently co-authoring *Cloud Computing: Concepts and Technology* and editing five new books. He is also editor-in-chief of the *Journal of E-Government Studies and Best Practice*.

### E-Government in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: Thoughts on Implementation

#### Abstract

Kurdistan is an emerging democracy focusing on 'modernisation' that has set targets to include horizontal and vertical integration between governmental departments, appropriate external visibility as well as full participation of citizens in government affairs. Education, commerce, efficiency, openness and the involvement of its citizens are just a few of the core items on the main agenda. A liberal investment law, already ratified, offers foreigners attractive incentives to invest. The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MoHESR) has already adopted a revolutionary strategy for a brighter future for the sector of higher education. The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) also has the vision of modernising government affairs through the use of technology and thus providing better services to the nation. However, with respect to electronic government (EG), Kurdistan

needs to develop a clearer strategy. Closer examination of the DoIT, MoHESR and the Investment Board strategies suggest that the ground work for EG has already begun. The objectives of DoIT that include IT capacity, infrastructure, penetration and governance, as well as E-services, provide a sound foundation for the adoption of an efficient EG in terms of the readiness assessment of the government and nation.

This paper presents some thoughts on how the Kurdistan initiatives, by way of the visions of its various departments, can help to progress the EG agenda and suggest that Kurdistan is already well on the way to developing an efficient EG. This paper also discusses the e-readiness requirements, especially in the case of developing countries, and provides a mapping between the general EG requirements and the already agreed targets by the Kurdistan ministries and departments. Additionally, this paper provides recommendations as to what new actions need to be taken for successful adoption and implementation of an efficient e-government in Kurdistan.



### Shareef M. Shareef PhD / Johnnes Arreymbi (Kurdistan/UK)

Shareef M. Shareef, PhD in Computer Science, University of East London. He is currently a lecturer at the Software Engineering Department at the College of Engineering, University of Salahaddin-Hawler. Worked as an expert in the ICT Centre, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research in Kurdistan Region of Iraq, 2007. Became a Fellow of Higher Education Academy (FHEA) in the UK, 2011.

Johnnes Arreymbi, Senior Academic and multi-award winner at the School of Architecture, Computing & Engineering, University of East London, UK. He is currently researching and has lead/coordinated research on Information/Cyber Security and Criminality, Cloud Computing, E-Governance, Mobile Telecoms/ Multimedia Systems Design and Development; Biometrics, Usability, and 'Soft Issues' of Technology, ICT and related technologies.

#### Mobile-Government for Enhanced Public Service Delivery in Advancing Economies: The Case of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI)

##### Abstract

The development of mobile communication, along with huge penetration of mobile users across the globe, enables cost effective usage and transform public service delivery. This paper emphasizes that mobile communications can facilitate vast usage of e-government services in places where traditional fixed line phones are sparse compared with mobile penetration, particularly in the transitional governments. This paper investigates mobile government (m-government) developments within the wider context of e-government – but mainly efforts in the regions where mobile

penetration exceeds landline penetration – as in many advancing economies. Examples are the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) and Cameroon. The precise efforts made by both the developed and advancing countries in utilizing the latest technologies and applications for enhancing e-government will be explored. The main contribution of this paper is to propose an architectural design for m-government application, through utilizing the mobile GPS (Global Positioning System) used in the KRI traffic police information system to identify and establish the identities of drivers and vehicles in real time.

Keywords: Mobile government, electronic government, GPS, architectural design, KRI, KRG and Traffic Police Information System (TPIS)



### Wafa Khorsheed PhD and Asad Khailany (USA)

Wafa Khorsheed, PhD and three Master degrees from the USA and a Post Graduate Diploma from England. He is a senior Managing Consultant with over 25 years of knowledge and experience in IT technology. He is well-versed in Cloud, SOA, B2B, e-Government, and EAI architectures. He is a founding member of Kurdish National Congress (KNC).

Asad Khailany, DSc in Computer Science, Washington University, St. Louis Missouri, USA. He has over 35 years of academic experience in computer science. He has authored several books in the computer field. He has been credited for creating one of the best 20 Computer Information Systems programs in the US in 1976. Founder of the Kurdish National Congress (KNC) in North America.

#### An Overview Of E-Government and Efficient Strategies For Adoption within Developing Countries

##### Abstract

The common method for citizens to receive government services today is by actually making a visit to the government offices. The advancement in information and communication technologies, as well as the emergence of the Internet, have made it possible to deliver these services at more convenient locations closer to a citizen's country. Examples would be kiosks located at shopping malls. Also, these technologies have made it possible to eliminate the visit all together, allowing citizens to get these services through the use of mobile devices and personal computers located in their homes or business offices. The delivery of such services over the internet is commonly referred to as E-Government. Most common examples of such services include: job searches for available government positions, requests for personal documents such as passports and

driver licenses, and car registration, to name a few. There are many benefits associated with the adoption of E-Government, among them: better delivery of government services to citizens, improved interactions between citizens and business, citizen empowerment through access to information, and more efficient government management. Less tangible, but some other equally important benefits are: increased transparency, less corruption, greater convenience, revenue growth, and cost reductions. This paper provides an overview anatomy of E-Government, covering a common definition, common use case scenarios, logical architecture, and key enabling technologies. The paper will also cover the requirements and the methodologies for developing E-Government, including the best practices and lessons learned. Finally, the paper will also provide a highlight of E-government adoption by other countries, in particular by developing countries, covering their successes and the challenges they faced.

## Session 6: The Kurdish Genocide, Our Minds and Reshaping Our City, Environment and Design for Public Spaces



**Osman Ahmed (UK)**

An expert on Visual Arts at the Ministry of Culture and Youth, Kurdistan Regional Government and eyewitness of Anfal, 1988. He graduated from Institute of Art in Sulaimani-Iraq (1985). He coordinated the work of Kurdish artists to establish an international awareness campaign focusing on Anfal. He studied MA in Drawing at Camberwell School of Art in London (2007).

### Documenting the Anfal: The Kurdish Genocide (1988) Through Drawing

#### Abstract

This research investigates and records through artwork collective memories of the Kurdish victims/survivors of the Anfal. It attempts to answer some basic questions: Can genocide be documented through drawing to convey the collective horror and despair? In other words: can drawing be used to historically document genocide in a nation's memory? Also, how far should we go beyond realistic formats to draw and convey the inner world of the traumatized victims of genocide?

My drawings come from my past experience as a child eyewitness and throughout the years of political and cultural repression that culminated in the horrendous 1988 event (the Anfal). I use my drawings as a diary, recording painful narratives. A hero in the vast desert or high mountains – a vast space with the imprint of a hand, a finger or part of a body/bodies in an unfinished sketch. Bodies of the

young beings separated from the old, men from women, or children from their parents whose belongings/life possessions have been left behind through no choice of their own. Suddenly these items no longer have any value as those who possessed them have been forced to leave. Often their worldly possessions were destroyed right before them.

Although the last century was nothing short of a 'century of death' it was very hard for me to actually believe that I was 'witnessing' a 'massacre' happening before me, unable to do a thing about a living nightmare. Few of us survived the genocide to witness the further mass executions of thousands of men, women and children, many of whom were buried alive. There were women in labour, young men and children, and mass graves to hide the evidence.

These events as well as my personal circumstances have given me a continual source of often uncomfortable imagery, but a powerful reason for working. Ever since this traumatic experience, my artwork has been totally dominated by this subject matter.



**Jamal Hamid Zangana MSc (UK)**

MSc in Environmental Engineering, University of Wisconsin, Madison. He worked as a teaching assistant at the University of Wisconsin and as lecturer of Environmental Engineering at the University of Salahaddin. Was a visiting professor at the University of Delft, The Netherlands and taught Environmental Engineering at South Bank University.

### The Environmental Destruction of Iraqi Kurdistan

#### Abstract

Iraqi Kurdistan was subject to systematic destruction by subsequent Iraqi regimes since the early 1960s. The destruction reached its peak during Saddam Hussein's dictatorship era. Thousands of villages were destroyed, trees were cut and water fountains poisoned or closed by concrete. The use of chemical weapons in Halabja and other parts of Iraqi Kurdistan in 1988 led to complete destruction of all elements of the environment as water, air, cattle and livestock were killed off. The Iraqi regime used the environment as a weapon against the Kurdish Liberation Movement.

This genocide was carried out by killing approximately 5000 Kurds of Halabja and thousands of men of the Barzani tribe; hundreds of mass

graves around the country are unarguable proof of these crimes.

Another aspect of the environmental destruction of Kurdistan is Turkey's appetite to build as many dams as they can on the Tigris and Euphrates, resulting in a decrease in the amount of water reaching Kurdistan and Iraq.

However, Kurdistan can handle this problem by:

- 1-Diplomatically negotiating with Turkey regarding the dams and Kurdistan/Iraq water rights, according to international rules.
- 2-Building a set of small dams in different parts of Kurdistan to save rain water. This will help increase the tourist appeal of the area which will also generate an additional source of income for the Kurdish economy.

In this paper, an attempt is made to diagnose the nature of environmental destruction in Iraqi Kurdistan, make appropriate suggestions to improve environment quality and to stop further damage to the nature of Kurdistan itself.





### Ahmad Sohrabi PhD (USA)

PhD in Cognitive Science from Carleton University, Ottawa. He is currently a post-doctorate associate at the Department of Neurology, University of Minnesota, Medical School. He is also a contract assistant professor at the Department of Psychology, University of Kurdistan, Sanandaj, Kurdistan, Iran.

#### New Mind and Brain Sciences: Implications of Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI)

##### Abstract

A new neuroscientific method known as functional neuroimaging, despite some controversy regarding its success, has attracted much attention among researchers interested in employing techniques to study brain activation during human thinking and other cognitive processes. A most frequently used functional neuroimaging method is the one based on energy consumption of the brain while subjects are performing cognitive tasks. The functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) is a recent method that is noninvasive, compared to Positron Emission Tomography (PET).

There are many fMRI methods with special applications, but the most popular one is based on the Blood Oxygenation Level-Dependent (BOLD) response. The BOLD response is a function of the regional Cerebral Blood Flow (rCBF), blood volume, and especially

deoxygenation of hemoglobin. Decrease in deoxyhemoglobin, which is paramagnetic, leads to the inhomogeneity of the local magnetic field in a way that can be measured by the receiver of the MRI scanner to create a map of brain activation.

Since the first functional neuroimaging studies using PET and fMRI in the 1980s and 1990s respectively, many scientists have looked at the brain areas involved in a wide range of mental functions, from word and face recognition to morality and religion. Apparently, the simple applications of these methods have been to search for specific areas activated by cognitive tasks. In this paper, I review both neural and psychological aspects of the fMRI method and its implication for science, education, and medicine, focusing on applied aspects for the development in Kurdistan and nearby regions. I will introduce some methods beyond localization, such as dynamic causal modeling and percent signal changes in regions of interest, as well as some recent advances in neuroimaging of different areas of human cognition, from attention to social games.



### Jamil Mardukhi (Canada)

Manager and principal partner of the award winning consulting engineering firm of NCK Engineering Ltd. of Toronto. He has over 35 years of experience in the design, supervision and management of important complex projects. He has been involved in the design, construction and monitoring complex projects of tall towers, high-rise buildings and special structures in Mexico, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Moscow, Trinidad, Beirut and the UAE.

#### Advanced Design Methods and Materials in Civil and Structural Engineering

##### Abstract

Modern structural engineers face enormous challenges as they encounter increased necessity for urban intensification, landmark monumental structures and high demand for green energy within communities. Planners and architects are demanding taller structures and unusually sculpted post-modern buildings, while owners request that efficiency be kept in the forefront when considering the economy of space and practicality of construction.

Further to new creations, structural engineers continue to be upgrading existing structures for seismic loads, renewed utility and longer endurance.

In this presentation I will address these two issues with particular reference to some of our projects in the past 40 years.

Tuned Dampers

We have used Tuned Mass Dampers (TMDs) to mitigate problems of vibration and excessive deflection of tall towers and carried out extensive modeling and investigation on the design of "Multi-purpose

Tuned Liquid Dampers for tall buildings and special Annular slush dampers for tall wind towers. Two TMDs are present in the antenna of the Canadian National Tower in Toronto Canada to assure its operation at various wind speeds. The 104 meter antenna mast, installed on top of a 450 meter high concrete shaft serves as the support for TV and FM transmitters. The response of the antenna to high winds has been monitored and analysed since 1982, confirming the theoretical design and expectations of the system.

Larger size wind turbines that generate more electricity are being produced, requiring taller wind towers for support, which are prone to excessive vibration. In collaboration with the research institutions and universities in Canada, we have developed design methods for annular Tuned Liquid Dampers, a unique slosh damper fitting the geometry of over 150 meter tall wind towers, effectively reducing vibrations and deflection of the assembly.

Post-Tensioned Concrete, Pre-tensioned Steel and Fabric We have very successfully used vertical post-tensioning in concrete and pre-tensioning of fabric (case of the CN Tower) and pre-tensioning in steel (case of the Pyramide du Louvre in Paris).

## Session 6: The Kurdish Genocide, Our Minds and Reshaping Our City, Environment and Design for Public Spaces



**Parwez Zabihi (UK)**

Ba, MA, MBA, with postgraduate studies at the Central School of Speech and Drama. Author of numerous articles on the environment and books on Kurdistan. Visiting Lecturer on Urban Regeneration in Kurdistan, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). Consultant to International Construction companies on Planning and Investment in KRG and disputed territories. Associate/Partner to Ranj Construction and Investment Kurdistan/Iraq.

### Does Erbil Have the Potential to Become a Megacity by 2020?

#### Abstract

In the past 7 years, the KRG has gone through major changes. This paper addresses what is happening, how these developments can improve, is there a master plan or not and the bright future ahead. I will be showing a range of photos of Kurdistan. We will look at Google Earth to see how these cities are growing beyond imagination. This seminar is the beginning of a range of new seminars that will be looking at these cities as well as other Kurdish cities. We will look at specific areas both critically and constructively, pointing out existing projects that are taken into account areas that developers need to take into consideration. The environmental impact of new urban development is one of the key strategies of any new project. Responsible developers will need to take into account that impact that development will have on the immediate local area, both during the lifetime of the development and after it is handed over to the people. Questions such as the following need to be asked: What is its carbon footprint during development and afterwards when people

move in to the properties? Is the building environmentally friendly? Do the installations consider winter and summer? Is there a recycling and waste management plan of the site once it is fully occupied? If electricity and water are supplied as part of the project, what is the long-term plan to join the National Grid when it is fully operational? Who administers the services once it is fully operational and how do they do this? How well does the scheme take advantage of alternative energy generation from sun and wind for public spaces as well as individual buildings?

There is compelling evidence that once you involve the local population in developing the scheme and have a clear policy of inclusion in the project, the entire development is more successful. Then there will be a sense of belonging, ownership and pride by the people who occupy the properties. In addition, the environmental policy of the government will need to be reviewed. I am certain that there is a desire and resolution from the residents of this entire region to make life better and more prosperous. This may include cleaner, greener and healthier living that can help our cities look and feel better to live in.



**Jangir Maddadi (Sweden)**

Founder and designer of the International Jangir Maddadi Design Bureau. Maddadi was presented with Sweden's 2010 Entrepreneur Award by King Carl Gustaf XVI, and has been featured in top design magazines, TV and blogs. He sells his products in over 30 countries. Maddadi designs use simple forms and change traditional structure to allow a new functionality.

### Design for Public Space to Enhance Social Interaction and Well-Being

#### Abstract

Since its inception, JMDB has developed four major collections of public space furniture: the Union Family, the Compound Collection, the Droid Lamp, and the Butler Bin. The philosophy behind each collection embodies the goals of JMDB. All of our pieces are targeted for high-end commercial developments worldwide. Our products have been sold to clients in a multitude of countries, on four separate continents.

I began my design bureau about five years ago with the inspiration that design could be not only beautiful, but functional in a way that serves the public. My first collection, the Union Family, is a series of benches whose use and aesthetic would break with conventional bench design. The forms of these benches, notably spherical, give the users freedom in a multitude of ways. They offer the sitter 360 degrees of freedom to choose his/her own view. They give people the ability to sit comfortably in large groups, facing each other (the largest of the benches sits up to 12 people at a time), and they give

people the opportunity to sit alone while still sharing the bench with strangers, free of comfort.

Not only this, but the organic curvature of the bench gives public space designers an enormous amount of freedom to place the benches wherever they choose. They're available in numerous materials, colors and shapes (1-seater, 2-seater, 3-seater). They even offer the opportunity to integrate flower pots within the bench, allowing for the vegetation that we subconsciously crave in urban settings. The bench can be placed anywhere – indoors, outdoors, parks, harbors, corridors... wherever they are needed.

For me with regard to design beauty does not follow function, nor function after beauty. The two are equally vital in design. That is why my pieces are developed laboriously, to ensure that the product always follows my company's policy that our pieces must be beautiful in their simplicity and impeccable in their function.

My interest in people and the way that they interact with their environment probably arises from my background. I am one of eleven brothers and sisters who emigrated from Kurdistan to Sweden at the age of 13. Freedom has always been an interesting concept to me. The freedom to move, and especially to choose.



### Prof. Almas Heshmati PhD (South Korea)

PhD of Applied Economics at College of Life Sciences and Biotechnology, Korea University. He held similar positions at the Seoul National University, University of Kurdistan Hawler, RATIO Institute and the MTT Agrifood Research. He was Research Fellow at the World Institute for Development Economics Research and an Associate Professor of Economics at the Stockholm School of Economics.

#### A Review of the Regional Development Strategy for the Kurdistan Region 2012-2016

##### Abstract

This study is a review of the first regional development strategy for the Kurdistan Region covering the period 2012-2016. The objective is to review the document and provide a list of corrective measures to continuously update the document. The review is conducted in a number of steps. First, it discusses the importance of the strategic plan considering optimal allocation of resources from the society's viewpoint and precondition factors for achievement of a sustainable development strategy. Secondly, given the existing conditions and needs of the society, the correspondence between

the required structure and those of the actual development strategy is assessed and gaps identified. Third, based on the strategy document, each individual sector is described with respect to its specific characteristics, potential, and challenges. Fourth, based on findings about its strength and shortcomings, a list of modifications is provided to be incorporated in the Ministry of Planning's revision of the document. Fifth, provide a list of potential areas of development strategy-related research targeting researchers and graduate students. The last segment concludes this report.

Keywords: Economic plan, development strategy, development policy, Kurdistan Region, sector analysis, review, goal achieving and monitoring indicators, challenges, recommendations



### Nazar Rasul PhD (Germany)

PhD from the Technical University MPEI in Moscow and MBA from Munich Business School. He is a project director for "visioning projects" at Siemens Corporate Technology. University assistant professor at the Royal Institute of Technology in Sweden.

#### Strategic Foresight for Economic Growth and Sustainable Infrastructure in Kurdistan: A Vision for 2030

##### Abstract

Predicting the future has always been a matter of uncertainty, influenced by a set of key factors and trends that impact the long-term projection of future scenarios.

Foresight programs as a basis for strategic analysis and planning for the country, is not about forecasting and making predictions. It is rather about the ability to see what is emerging and understand how it could reshape the future. The main target is to understand the implications and derive strategic initiatives for the long-term development of the country, addressing economic development, research and education activities, legal framework and infrastructure development.

##### Methodology

The foresight methodology is recommended, providing a systematic process for exploring possible futures and developing visions.

For foresight and scenario development, dedicated theories,

methodologies and concepts are applied and exploited in order to analyze key influencing factors to shape the future, as well as derive implications on the overall conditions for development in the country/region.

(E.g. methodologies, such as Delphi method, scenario technique, trend analysis and future hypotheses, impact-uncertainty analysis, etc),

Expected results and conclusions:

Shaping the future and deriving strategic recommendations imply following results and conclusions:

- Develop scenario elements and vision for 2030
- Selection of key priorities for the country in the next 15 to 20 years: economic growth with focus growth areas, legal conditions, prioritization for investment climate and initiatives for emerging new sectors in the economy
- Major national R&D programs
- Initiatives for the government and universities
- Selection of potential research and educational programs
- Investment planning for competency and know-how building



### Hogir Fatih Rasul PhD (Sweden)

PhD and MSc in Engineering within Automation and Control System design at Moscow Power Engineering Institute MPEI. He is co-founder and General Manager of KTM Solutions, a consultancy company, and is currently head of Automation and Electronic Systems Development at Scania CV, Södertälje, Sweden.

#### The Role of Automation and Mechatronics in the Creation of a Modern Industrialized Nation

##### Abstract

Automation and Mechatronic systems are implemented in all types of production machines, automotive industry and products, consumer equipments and household appliances.

Using modern automation systems based on latest technical development is one of the most important and necessary ingredients and steps towards a fully developed industrial society. Developing and producing automated machines with artificial intelligence (control and supervisory systems) for production and consumer needs is one of the key prerequisites for high level industrialization and economic development in any country.

To assure our future and secure the future of our generations, we must create all conditions needed to industrialize our nation. By producing the necessary heavy and light industry products (production machines and consumer products) with appropriate quality, which can compete with other similar products in the world, is the only guarantee for the

Kurdistan region's economical survive when oil reserves are emptied and oil extraction and oil production ends.

We should assimilate and learn from other highly developed countries in Europe, America and Asia which have already built up highly-developed industries, infrastructure, financial mechanisms, investment environment and education.

In this paper, opportunities and obstacles for such development are analyzed, addressing the historical background in the Region, necessary prerequisites for industrialization, the required political and economic environment, as well as education and training needs.

The focus areas in the study are a derivation of required actions and measures that should be taken, based on concrete examples from other highly-developed industrial nation's experiences in this field. Recommendations will be given on adaptation of education and education programs to the industry needs in important fields, among others, within the field of automation technology and mechatronics, practical engineering and training, research and development work, production process and planning, labor training and more.



### Mohammad Sharif Sharifi PhD (Canada)

PhD in Medicinal Chemistry and Medical Microbiology, University of New South Wales (UNSW) and University of Western Sydney, Australia. He is a lecturer, level B in Medical Education at UNSW and a Casual Senior Lecturer at the University of Sydney. Co-founder of several companies including Saghez Sazi Kurdistan, Asil Starch and Glucose Syrup, Chia Textile, Australian Advanced Laboratory Services.

#### Use of Our Indigenous Kurdish Plants to Produce Antibiotics

##### Abstract

*Pistacia atlantica kurdica* (*Pistacia a. kurdica*) is found widely in the region of the Zagros Mountains, particularly in Western and Northern Iran, Eastern and Northern Iraq, Southern Turkey and Northern Syria so-called Kurdistan.

Kurdica gum from the *Pistacia a. kurdica* was collected from the area around the Zagros Mountains in Kurdistan province, Iran over the period June to August 2000 and provided by Kurdistan Saghez Sazi Co., Sanandaj, Iran.

Triterpenoids from the acidic fractions of the kurdica gum were isolated by column chromatography and High Performance Liquid Chromatography and characterised by Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry and Crystallography.

These isolates were divided into two major groups based on their skeleton; being lanosta, a tetracyclic triterpenoid compound, from which all steroids are derived, and oleanane, a natural triterpene found in flowering plants which are referred to collectively as oleanane

triterpenes. The triterpenoids, lanosta, mimic certain steroidal-like compounds, particularly the well-known antibiotic Fusidic acid. Selected isolates exhibited antibiotic properties and were tested in a protein inhibition assay to investigate their potential mode of action.

The results of co-sedimentation of ribosome with Fusidic acid/ test compound was read by Sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. These results showed some similarity of lanosta type skeleton's mode of the action to mechanism of the action of Fusidic acid. However, the oleanane type structures did not exhibit the pattern observed with Fusidic acid and the lanosta type compounds. Notwithstanding, the negative results obtained for the oleanane type structures are very important from the perspective of structure and function analysis, as these compounds could appear to act by a mechanism distinct from steroidal antibiotics such as Fusidic acid. Potentially these compounds represent a new family of antimicrobial compounds.

Keywords: *Pistacia atlantica kurdica*, Fusidic acid, Antimicrobial, Kurdistan, steroidal antibiotics



**Nabaz T. Khayat (USA)**

PhD Candidate in Engineering, Seoul National University, South Korea, and in Economics, Swiss Management University, Switzerland. BSc in Mathematics, University of Salahaddin Erbil. High Diploma in Artificial Intelligence and Database Design, University of Technology Baghdad. MSc in IT Engineering, Seoul National University, South Korea. He is currently Information Management Advisor in the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, KRG.

### **Socio- Economic Impact of Landmines in Southern Kurdistan**

#### **Abstract**

This study analyses mines and unexploded ordinance (UXO) victim data in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq during the period of 1960s to 2005. In addition to a descriptive analysis of the data, we use regression analysis to identify the determinants of the probability of getting killed by mines or UXOs and estimate the determinant impacts.

The rates of killed and injured victims are explained using a set of socioeconomic variables. Since the data is repeated, cross sections

in which individuals are observed when they are subjected to accident account for the dynamic aspect of the process and heterogeneity by location. We created pseudo panel data where districts were observed over the entire study period forming an almost balanced panel data. This allowed for analysis of both heterogeneity and dynamics across locations and over time as well as a control for unobserved locations and time effects. The result would be useful in planning, monitoring and resource allocation to mine action and rehabilitation activities.

Keywords: Landmine, unexploded ordinance, pseudo panel data, security and war, Kurdistan.

## Session 8: Politics, Democracy, Power Sharing and Nation Building



### Niyaz Barzani (USA)

MA in Political Science with a focus on International Politics, University of Texas, San Antonio. BA, College of Law and Politics, University of Salahaddin. Received the Fulbright Scholarship, 2010-2012 to continue his graduate studies in the USA. His Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science will focus on Peace Studies and Conflict.

#### The Feasibility of an Independent Kurdish State in Iraq

##### Abstract

The literature on the case of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq focuses mainly on the historical aspect of the Kurds' struggle against successive Iraqi regimes. The literature lacks a solid theoretical and analytical framework for examining the feasibility of an independent Kurdish State in Iraq. The main objective of this study is to provide the necessary theoretical and analytical framework for the Kurdish case in Iraq. This paper focuses on two main issues: the right of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq to become independent, and the feasibility of achieving independence. Regarding the right of independence,

this study examines the case of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq in light of moral theories of secession, theories of self-determination, and theories of recognition in international law. Regarding the feasibility of such a state, this study critically analyzes the internal and external (geopolitical) dimensions surrounding the KRI. It concludes that, theoretically, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq has the right to self-determination and to declare independence. These rights are deterred, however, by geopolitical circumstances. The feasibility of independence depends greatly on surmounting those geopolitical barriers.



### Sait Keskin (UK)

PhD candidate at the University of Exeter researching on political parties in Kurdistan, with a specific focus on the KDP and PKK. BA in Politics and International Relations, Oxford Brookes University. MA in Kurdish Studies, University of Exeter.

#### Kurdistan Regional Government: From Nation-Building to Nation-State Building

##### Abstract

This article/presentation analyzes the process of nation-building in Southern Kurdistan –the ultimate goal being to crown the region with Kurdish nation state-building–if the neighbouring regional states can co-exist with this outcome. When the KRG considers proposing the case of independence, we need to take into account just how far this eventuality has been successful ie. Nation-building. Another factor to consider is how will the government keep and safeguard this independence with the apparatus of the nation state? We must also consider the complexity of internal and external dynamics. How would such a state deal with the central government in Baghdad, as well as the regional states who have 1) quite a considerable portion of Kurdistan inside their political and geographical map on the one hand, and 2) to deal with the international nature of its states and the entire international community on the other hand. In the process of

rebuilding and reconstructing Southern Kurdistan, the KRG needs the support of all its inhabitants including Kirkuk, Mosul, Khaniqin – all the disputed areas – as a fundamental factor in its development. This is the first basic element for the nation-building infrastructure. Working towards independence would necessarily need strong public support, an economic infrastructure, political substructure and able institutions to lead and manage this effort politically, economically, socially, culturally, and diplomatically. According to research's qualitative methodology and the collected empirical data on the ground, this presentation will attempt to answer the following: Is Southern Kurdistan making this move too early and could this destroy similar KRGs that might come into existence in the other three areas of Kurdistan? Or rather is this endeavor a belated and incomplete matter which needs to be put into action immediately? Keywords; KRG, nation-building, nation-state, federalism and independence



### Prof. Michael Gunter PhD (USA)

Political science at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tennessee. He teaches during the summers at the Megatrend International University Vienna, Austria. He also teaches for the U.S. government area studies program in Washington, D.C. He is the author of scholarly books on the Kurdish question, the most recent being *Kurdish Historical Dictionary*. Currently he is the secretary-general of the EU Turkey Civic Commission.

#### Hierarchy and Interaction: An Analysis of Kurdish Political Groups in Turkey

##### Abstract

More than 30 years after it was founded as a small, violent, and isolated Kurdish party advocating Marxist revolution and the creation of a pan-Kurdish state, the Kurdistan Workers Party (Partiya Karkaren Kurdistan) or PKK has both spawned and/or inspired a plethora

of Kurdish nationalist organizations in Turkey. The rise of Kurdish nationalism, demands for Kurdish constitutional and legal rights, and need to establish new organizational names and identities to substitute for that of the "terrorist"-designated PKK help explain this Kurdish organizational proliferation. The purpose of this article is to analyze the resulting situation.

Keywords: PKK, KCK, Turkey,; group dynamics



### Marianna Charountaki PhD (UK)

A post-doctoral fellow at Reading University (UK). Her research interests range from International Relations and Foreign Policy Analysis to the International Relations of the Broader Middle East. She is the author of *The Kurds and US Foreign Policy: International Relations in the Middle East since 1945*. (Routledge, 2010).

#### Turkish Foreign Policy towards the KRG

##### Abstract

This paper analyzes the Turkish foreign policy stance towards the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) and examines the overall importance of the Kurds of Iraq regarding Turkish foreign policy. Yet whether close economic cooperation can bring tense political relations into harmony is open to question. Since this interrelationship has broader repercussions on regional politics, this work includes all the involved parts, regionally or internationally, which are affected or affect this relationship. Thus, the role of the PKK is a key factor in this analysis. Similarly, the triangle Baghdad, Ankara and Erbil will be examined in view of AKP's governance.

The contribution of this research is that it addresses the dearth of literature on relations between Turkey and the Kurds of Iraq. As such it is situated within the broader puzzle of the interaction between state and non-state actors in international relations. Therefore, the methods used to appraise the episodes of this relationship are content analyses of reports and articles, as well as interviews with political figures in both the Kurdistan Region and Turkey.

Specifically, I will be looking at the period from Gulf War II (1991)

onwards as the starting point of Ankara's new relations with the KRG. The invasion of Kuwait and the subsequent creation of a 'Safe Haven' by the US, Britain, France and Turkey in North Iraq (16 April 1991), represented a plan for protecting Iraq's Kurdish population. The impetus for this was the influx of around 60,000 Kurdish refugees on the Iranian and Turkish borders in the aftermath of the war and the Kurdish uprising of March 1991.

Özal's support for the creation of the 'Safe Haven' in 1991 not only aimed at averting a refugee crisis on Turkey's borders, but also permitted pursuit of the PKK rebels in exchange. Turkey's humanitarian scheme paved the way for the establishment in May 1992 of the first de facto Kurdish state in Iraq. The formation of the KRG as the result of Iraqi withdrawal from the North not only sowed the seeds for the post-Saddam era, but also signaled the emergence of Iraq's Kurds as an important factor in the still unfolding democratization of the Middle East. Turkey's interest in the Kurds of Iraq was further expressed by Ankara's attempt to mediate the conflict between the KDP and PUK (1994-1998), a process that ended in the Washington Agreement. The Iraq War (2003) and its aftermath led to the transformation of the Turkish-Kurdish relations into an official relationship, compared to the occasional Turkish-KDP interactions of the past.

## Session 8: Politics, Democracy, Power Sharing and Nation Building



### Mahir A. Aziz PhD (Kurdistan)

PhD, University of Exeter. MSc, Birkbeck College, University of London. MA, University of Baghdad. He is currently Deputy General Director of Scholarships and Cultural Relations, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Kurdistan Region of Iraq, Erbil. He teaches at the Department of Social Work in Salahaddin University. His recent book, *The Kurds of Iraq: Ethno Nationalism and National Identity in Iraqi Kurdistan* (I.B.Tauris, 2011).

#### Power-Sharing and Consociational Democracy in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: 1998-2012

##### Abstract

This paper analyzes power structures and groupings within the leadership apparatus and mechanisms of the Kurdistan Region. A sober study of the power structure in Iraqi Kurdistan illustrates that the major political parties are characterised by leadership structures that portray a hegemonic structure that promotes a politics of diffusion.

This arrangement ensures that pluralistic demands can be met while maintaining control within a hegemonic structure. Arent Lijphart's notion of 'consociationalism', a term that emphasizes the importance of power-sharing among different segments of society, is discussed and applied to the political structure of the Kurdistan Region as a fitting tool for understanding how power structures and leadership works in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

Keywords: Political Science, democracy, politics





### Jaffer Sheyholislami PhD (Canada)

An assistant professor at the School of Linguistics and Language Studies, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada, where he teaches courses in applied linguistics and discourse studies. He has published widely in both Kurdish and English on language policy and planning, language and identity, Kurdish media culture, and the Kurdish language.

#### Language Selection as a Double-Edged Sword: Language Planning and Policy in Iraqi Kurdistan

##### Abstract

This paper examines some of the challenges the autonomous Kurdistan Region in Iraq has been facing in the area of language planning and policy. On the one hand, influential speakers of the dominant central Kurdish variety have put pressure on the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) to declare their “dialect” as the official Kurdish language of that polity. Another major dialect, northern Kurdish, which is spoken by the majority of Kurds living in at least four countries, competes for the same status in Iraqi Kurdistan. On the other hand, speakers of other varieties that until recently have been known as Kurdish (such as Hawrami) have started to request language rights. This paper employs discourse analysis to analyze two petitions submitted to the Kurdistan Parliament by the speakers of Sorani and Hawrami on separate occasions. One demands the

officialization of the central dialect, and the other demands language rights for Hawrami speakers. It further investigates how speakers of the northern dialect contribute to this particular discourse around language selection and officialization. The Kurdish case offers an opportunity to consider how the complex interrelationships amongst linguistic, political, historical, and socio-cultural factors that cross national borders impinge on language management. This paper suggests that, among other objectives in the process of language selection, planners are expected to acknowledge the importance of language as a constituent in nation building, the primacy of language as a central element in personal and national identity, and the significance of linguistic rights. The nationalist linguistic ideology of “one nation equals one language” may no longer be tenable because of the proliferation of communications technology, expansion of diasporic and transnational communities, and an increased international appreciation for linguistic diversity.



### Kristiina Koivunen PhD (Finland)

PhD, University of Helsinki . MA, University of Tampere. As a social worker, she has worked for 10 years at the City of Helsinki, Social Services department with immigrants and refugee center. She has taught at Salahadin University and Sulaymania University and worked as a free lance journalist writing about the Kurds in Finnish and in Kurdish mass media.

#### The History of Genocides in North and South Kurdistan, 1920-2010

##### Abstract

I describe the history of genocides in the twentieth century in North and South Kurdistan. The Ottoman Kurdistan was divided in the 1920s between Turkey and Iraq. Both countries started forced assimilation of the Kurds. They defended their ethnic identity with uprisings. The suppression of the Kurds has reached genocide level both in North and South Kurdistan. The peak of it was the Anfal Campaign in South Kurdistan in 1988. In North Kurdistan, the main genocide method is cultural genocide.

When the Ottoman state collapsed at the beginning of the twentieth century, the Kurds were on a proto-national stage. The administration of the autonomous Kurdish princedoms had been destroyed in the Tanzimat programme, the centralization policy in the Ottoman state,

since the 1840s. The Kurdish nation building process was going on, but it was at such an early stage that their leaders could not defend the rights of the Kurds when the lands of the Ottomans were shared after the First World War. In the division of Kurdistan in the early 1920s, the Kurdish question became a frozen conflict.

Genocides occur when a collapsing state turns against its own citizens. The state whose collapse is considered here is not Turkey or Iraq, but the Ottoman state. This process continues still. Like the formation of an empire is a long process, the collapse of it takes time. The Kurdish genocide process still continues; in North Kurdistan, it takes the form of forced assimilation as the Kurdish language does not have a legal status. In South Kurdistan, the Kurds who live in the disputed territories (Ninawa, Kirkuk and Diyala governorates) die in bomb attacks and escape to the autonomous Kurdistan and Europe. The situation of Yezidi Kurds is especially difficult.



### Zeynep Arslan PhD (Austria)

PhD in Social Sciences, with a main focus on Political Sciences, University of Vienna, Austria. She worked as policy officer at the Municipal Department for Integration and Diversity in Vienna. She is currently a National Expert at the European Commission in the Directorate General for Education and Culture in Brussels.

#### To Be a Child of Non-Turkish Origin in Turkey: The Case of Kurdish Children

##### Abstract

Within the last couple of years, the theme about the so called “stone warping children” in Turkey dominated the political agenda. The Kurdish children who were born in the 1990s, when the war was very intense and bloody, have experienced repression of their families, the consequences of the war, forced migration and poverty.

Today these children are teenagers who are aware that in Turkey many things happen because of their Kurdish identity. These children are challenging the political agenda in Turkey. Hundreds of these children are put in prisons and often just killed in public.

The target of this paper is to show that children are not just children, but the grown-ups of tomorrow who should be taken seriously. These children of today will formulate the society of tomorrow. With the universal idea of “what you plant, you shall reap”, societies should be aware of what they are doing with or to their children.



### Muslih Irwani (UK / Kurdistan)

PhD Candidate, University of Nottingham, UK. MA and BA in Sociology, Salahaddin University. Editor-in-Chief at the Mukriyani Foundation for Research and Publication. Has published numerous articles in the Kurdish media.

#### The Politics of Social Policy: KRG's Experience in the Implementation of Social Security Programmes

##### Abstract

With the hegemony of politics over social policy in the Kurdistan Region, researching the implementation of social security programmes is vitally important for understanding the outlook of the KRG towards social policy.

This research examines policy implementation theories within the context of a politically less developed region, taking social security programmes of the KRG's as a case study.

The primary question is why the KRG has not adopted an effective social policy with its developmental programmes since its formation in 1992. My focused question is: why are two social cash transfer programmes (i.e. 'Privileges for Families of Martyrs and Anfal Survivors' and 'Family Protection Fund') being implemented differently.

Investigating the above cases would help understand the following: the extent to which the political conditions of the Kurdistan Region,

what has been understood from the Kurdish national struggle, intra-civil war and participacy, have formed and influenced the implementation of social security schemes of KRG.

For the purposes of this research, a qualitative method has been used. For the whole research project, I have conducted 46 individual semi-structured interviews and 6 focus groups. Research participants have been chosen from various levels and positions in directorates of relevant ministries in all three governorates of the Kurdistan Region: Erbil, Sulaimania and Dohuk.

I have found from the data that beneficiaries of the programmes are potentially significant participants in the process of policy implementation. In contrast to almost all policy implementation theories and models, which focus on the role of top officials (top-down approach), bureaucrats and implementers (bottom-up approach) or interaction of both (integrated approach), I argue that the profile (character) of beneficiaries of the scheme have a decisive role in the salience given to the social programme, and in the effectiveness of its implementation.



### Boyan Hadjiev (Bulgaria)

PhD candidate and assistant professor at the University of National and World Economy, Sofia. Masters in "National and International Security" from the Defense Academy, Sofia. He is interested in Kurdish history and contemporary development of Kurdistan, political analysis and the role of media in the contemporary conflicts.

#### Women's Role in the Development and Stability of Society

##### Abstract

Women are powerful symbols of identity. They are mothers, wives, and sisters and in these roles, they are the caretakers of culture. They also signify a vision of society that identifies a nation. The Middle East is a perfect example of this. It has one of the highest rates of population growth in the world, yet maintains one of the lowest literacy rates and labor force participation among women. This has a direct influence on their ability to be seen as modern states. In their bid to modernize, the Middle East has come under attack for having one of the poorest records of human rights, particularly with reference to women. Because of this, issues dealing with women's rights have become, "part of an ideological terrain where broader notions of cultural authenticity and integrity are debated and where women's appropriate place and conduct may be made to serve as boundary markers." (Deniz Kandiyoti, "Women, Islam, and the State: A Comparative Approach," in *Comparing Muslim Societies: Knowledge and the State in a World Civilization*, p246.)

Knowledge and the State in a World Civilization, p246.)

Cross-national studies show that the higher women's relative educational status and political participation, the less frequent are political violence and instability. (Mary Caprioli, "Primed for Violence: The Role of Gender Inequality in Predicting Internal Conflict," *International Studies Quarterly* 49 (2005): 161–78.)

Three causal processes may be at work:

- 1) Educated and empowered women may socialize youth in ways that inhibit their susceptibility to recruitment by violent organizations and radical movements.
- 2) They may also help strengthen civil society organizations that provide alternatives to political participation.
- 3) In the longer run, women's education contributes to declining birth rates, leading to a reduction in the risks posed by large youth populations.

Civil society and the development of social capital are essential components in the development of community, economic growth and democratic structures that are required for progress.



### Audrey Osler / Chalank Yahya (UK / Norway)

Audrey Osler, Professor of Education, researching human rights, social justice, and democratic citizenship education policy and practice in established democracies and post-conflict societies. She is a consultant to international bodies, including Council of Europe, European Commission and UNESCO. Author of numerous articles and books.

Chalank Yahya MSc, Human Rights and Multiculturalism from Buskerud University College, Norway. She received a scholarship from Norway's Falstad Centre to do research in Kurdistan, Iraq for her Master's thesis. She is currently the Reintegration Coordinator of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Norway.

#### Human Rights Education in Kurdistan-Iraq: Enabling Teachers to Contribute to Processes of Gender Equity, Democracy and Development

##### Abstract

This paper examines the potential of human rights education (HRE) in schools to contribute to democracy, development and social justice, specifically gender equity. We draw on documentary sources and fieldwork in two Kurdistan-Iraq governorates -Erbil and Duhok-between 2010 and 2012. This includes classroom observations and interviews with teachers, education professionals and NGO workers, including those responsible for the new HRE curriculum. We examine tensions in implementing HRE, including those for policy-makers, juggling the demands of nation-building and its application through schooling and various child rights. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child confirms the right to an education which promotes human rights, intercultural understanding and learning to live together; an education which promotes gender equity; and conditions which guarantee certain cultural and linguistic rights of parents and children. These rights may operate in tension, and

some may be denied in family and societal contexts where powerful conservative and patriarchal values prevail. We report on teachers' attempts to reconcile tensions and contradictions, while facing limited material and human resources. HRE is often perceived as low-status among teachers and students alike. Human rights are taught without adequate consideration of children's experiences of everyday rights denials. Nevertheless, we argue HRE is fundamental to democratic development, social justice and cohesion. As political developments in the wider region impact on Kurdistan-Iraq, HRE has a role in equipping citizens with the skills and attitudes for a cosmopolitan worldview and peaceful democratic development. Gender equity underpinned by human rights has the potential to enable girls' and women's self-empowerment and contribute to socio-economic progress. In a spirit of dialogue, and drawing on our research findings in Kurdistan-Iraq, we propose principles and strategies for policy-makers and teachers to enable links to be made between effective HRE, good governance, sustainable development and quality education for all.

Keywords: Human rights education, democratic development, gender equity



**P01 Garif Yalak (Switzerland)**

PhD in Biomedical research ETH Zurich, Switzerland. MSc in Biomedicine, Mainz University, Germany. BSc in Bioinformatics, Saarland University, Germany. He is currently working as a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute of Health Sciences and Technology at ETH Zurich. In 2013 he will begin a postdoctoral research position in Harvard University. His main research interest is in biomedical research with the potential of clinical applications.

**Is Kurdistan the Switzerland of the Middle East with Respect to Education?**

**Abstract**

Objective: I suggest the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich), the best university in continental Europe, as a model for Kurdistan universities.

Background: Kurdistan (KRG) is always referred to as the second Dubai. However, to maintain and further stabilize its gains on the long term, Kurdistan needs a well-educated society. Although Kurdistan's universities are rapidly improving, they cannot compete with the big international elite universities. In that respect, the Swiss university ETH Zurich can be taken as an example.

Methods: I will review the success story of the ETH Zurich and provide a comprehensive analysis of the structure and factors leading to the success.

Discussion: Since 1855, ETH Zurich is one of the leading international universities for technology and natural sciences. 21 Nobel Laureates have studied, conducted research or taught at ETH Zurich including Wilhelm Konrad Röntgen and the famous Albert Einstein. As a high education level in a society correlates to a high living standard, it is the best way for Kurdistan to provide everybody with good education opportunities for a prosperous future. The rather short history of Kurdistan's universities make it very important to set the ground work right at the beginning for a great success. In that respect, successful universities around the world should be very carefully studied, among them the ETH Zürich.

Conclusions: ETH Zurich with its success story, structure, teaching and research opportunities can very well be used as an example for Kurdistan's universities. A strategic collaboration of Kurdistan's universities with ETH Zurich is recommended.

Keywords: Science, research, education



**P02 Azad Raza, Sherow Raza and Bjarne Jorngird (Kurdistan / Denmark)**

PhD in Agro-Chemistry, University of Agriculture Science, Bucharest. BSc in Agriculture Science, Soil Department, University of Sulaymania. Currently at the Danish KVL Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University Relations that cooperates with Bioraf – Denmark and BioVelop - Sweden. Has worked as an Applied Researcher at Applied Agriculture Research Centre – Sulaymania. Director & Quality Control on "Natural Mineral Water & Soft Drink Manufacturing Plant - Bany Khelan".

**Increased Biodiversity and Human Protein Supply by Introducing Quinoa in Kurdistan Farming System**

**Abstract**

Quinoa means "mother grain" in the Inca language and it is a species of the Chenopodium family, which have been cultivated for centuries as a leafy vegetable, and as a grain crop for human and animal nutrition. The seeds have a high-protein content 16-18% with a balanced of essential amino acids with high lysine (5.1-6.4%). Quinoa has a wide range of vitamins (E, B, and C) and minerals, such as calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, potassium, iron, copper, manganese and zinc.

The protein quality in quinoa seed is often superior to that of more common cereal grains such as Barley, Wheat, Corn, Oat, Rice, and Rye. Quinoa seeds are rich in protein and low in fat, having high nutrition value. They are easy to digest because they are gluten free and the taste is good. It can be used to make flour, soup, and a variety of dishes. Quinoa is a gluten-free product and is a neutral food for all blood types, so it is safe to eat for everyone. Quinoa seeds can be cooked like rice. Quinoa flour in combination with wheat flour or corn meal can be used to make bread and food. We must add quinoa into

our diet because it is easy to grow, highly nutritious with medicinal qualities and it is economical. In fact, quinoa has been nominated as the best protein source from the plant kingdom.

Quinoa has a high level of resistance to several factors, like soil salinity, drought, frost, diseases and pests. It can tolerate soil pH from 4.8 to 9.5 and also resists frost before the flower formation stage. The drought resistance of quinoa is attributed to morphological characters.

Quinoa is grown in a wide range of environments in South America (especially in and around the Andes), and can be grown from sea level to an altitude of 3800 meter. However, Quinoa requires temperate temperatures, especially during flowering and for most genotypes, short days to flower and produce seeds.

Quinoa fits the Kurdistan winter climate; however, important adaptation and selection work will require selecting the best genotype with respect to length of growing period, plant height, flowering time and many other characters.

Quinoa has the potential to become an important industrial and food crop in the Kurdistan farming system of the 21 century because of its high ability to produce high-protein grain under the adverse growth conditions in Kurdistan's lands.



### P03 Ayoob Khaleel Ismael (Malaysia)

PhD candidate, Department of Urban & Regional Planning, Faculty of Built Environment, Universiti Teknologi, Malaysia. MA in Geography - Rural Planning (2003). Bachelor in Geography (1999), Salahaddin University-Hawler. His research interest includes rural planning, rural development, agricultural economics, urban planning, geography, disparity and poverty.

#### The Importance of Promoting Entrepreneurial Activities Among Rural Communities in Kurdistan Region-Iraq

##### Abstract

Promoting entrepreneurship in rural area is an important issue in many countries in the world nowadays. Policy makers, researchers, farmers' unions and advisory services are all working on the development of entrepreneurship in rural communities. Furthermore many social scientists believe that supporting entrepreneurship development within low-income communities is a useful development strategy to combat poverty.

The rural economy in the Kurdistan Region is typically an agriculture based economy and more often coupled with traditional and low level of technology, out migration of young people and relatively high level of poverty. The agricultural sector has been seriously hampered by decades of conflict, negative national government policies, international sanctions and more than a twenty years period

of isolation. At this time, over 80% of the region's basic staples are imported. The inability to produce its own food is actually a dangerous situation for its national security because it puts the Kurdistan Region at a disadvantage when negotiating with the neighbours that feed it. Hence endorsing entrepreneurial activities in Kurdistan's rural economy is an essential theme toward achieving economic development and political independence in the region.

However, the task is not easy and many factors are involved in determining the success of rural entrepreneurs. Therefore, identifying issues and challenges faced by the entrepreneurs is somewhat crucial. In this regard, this paper intends to highlight the importance of entrepreneurial activities in rural Kurdistan and shows some of the issues and challenges. The question answered in this paper is why entrepreneurship in agriculture is important and what kind of entrepreneurial skills farmers require.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, economy, rural development, Kurdistan Region



### P04 Sheini Saleem (USA)

Graduate studies (Doctor of Philosophy, Microbiology and Immunology), Virginia Commonwealth University. She completed her PhD requirements and will begin her MD curriculum. BS in Biology, James Madison University, Virginia. Medical Technology in Inova Fairfax Hospital, Virginia, (2008).

#### Mast Cells Critically Augment Myeloid Derived Suppressor Cell Activity

##### Abstract

Myeloid derived suppressor cells (MDSCs) are primarily recognized for their immunosuppressive properties in malignant disease. However, their interaction with other innate immune cells and their regulation of immune responses such as in parasitic infection necessitate further characterization. We utilized our previously published mouse model of MDSC accumulation to examine the immunoregulatory role of MDSCs in B16 melanoma metastasis and *Nippostrongylus brasiliensis* (Nb) infection. Here we demonstrate that the activity of MDSCs is dependent on the immune stimuli and subset induced. Monocytic MDSCs predictably suppressed anti-tumor immune

responses but granulocytic MDSCs surprisingly enhanced the clearance of Nb infection. Intriguingly, both results were dependent on MDSC interaction with mast cells (MCs) as demonstrated by adoptive transfer studies in MC-deficient (Kit<sup>Wsh/Wsh</sup>) mice. These findings were further supported by ex vivo co-cultures of MCs and MDSCs, indicating a synergistic increase in cytokine production. This intercellular communication leads to augmentation of Th2 polarizing cytokines that are beneficial in the case of parasitic infection but maladaptive in neoplasia. Thus, our findings indicate that MDSCs have an immunomodulatory role that is largely dependent on the type of stimuli, the MDSC population involved and the presence of mast cells.

Keywords: Cancer Immunotherapy, myeloid derived suppressor cells (MDSCs), mast cells



### P05 Mahdy Barzinjy, Olav Stølen and Jørgen. L. Christiansen (Denmark)

Mahdy Barzinjy, PhD in Agronomy, Faculty of Life Sciences, Copenhagen, Denmark. Lecturer at the Agricultural College, Salahaddin University, 1977-1986. Since 1991 he has been involved in activities to supply the Department of Field Crops, Agricultural College of Sulaymani with textbooks, seed samples and other teaching materials. He is currently doing a research project on oilseed rape for the first time in Kurdistan (Sulaymani) in cooperation with the staff of the same department.

#### A Comparison of Growth, Pod Distribution and Canopy Structure of Old and New Cultivars of Oilseed Rape (*Brassica napus* L.)

##### Abstract

Growth, canopy structure and yield components of four selected spring type cultivars of oilseed rape (Derby, Cyclone, Gulle and Christa) were studied in a field experiment conducted in 1993. Growth analysis was carried out by taking six samples at two-weekly intervals. Area indices of leaves, stems and pods as well as dry matter of plant components were measured. The cultivars showed two different patterns of development and were classified into two groups: old and new cultivars. The first group (Derby and Cyclone) was characterized by short plants, bearing more branches that started branching earlier and on a low position on the stem, while the second group (Gulle

and Christa) were characterized by tall plants with thick stems and few branches, starting higher on the stem. Yield could not be directly related to differences in the canopy structure between old and new types. The highest yielding cultivar (Cyclone) belonged to the new category, but the second highest yielding cultivar (Gulle) was of the old type. The study of canopy structure revealed that the pods were distributed evenly on the uppermost branches of the cultivar Cyclone, while for the other cultivars most of the pods were on the main stem, especially in cultivars Gulle and Christa (old group). The cultivars differed significantly in most yield components. In addition to stem and pod development, the number of branches and leaf area after anthesis were important characteristics for yield improvement. There were significant differences between cultivars in oil and protein content.

Keywords: Development, canopy structure, yield components.



### P06 Mahdy Barzinjy and Abdull-Salam Abdull-Rahman Rasool (Denmark / Kurdistan)

Mahdy Barzinjy, PhD in Agronomy, Faculty of Life Sciences, Copenhagen, Denmark. Lecturer at the Agricultural College, Salahaddin University, 1977-1986. Since 1991 he has been involved in activities to supply the Department of Field Crops, Agricultural College of Sulaymani with textbooks, seed samples and other teaching materials. He is currently doing a research project on oilseed rape for the first time in Kurdistan (Sulaymani) in cooperation with the staff of the same department.

#### Testing Performance of Winter Oilseed Rape under Climatic Condition of Iraqi Kurdistan Sulaymania District: An On-Going Research Project at the Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Agriculture

##### Abstract

Oilseed rape (*Brassica napus* L.) is the second-most important oil crop in the world and it is a predominant one in Europe. Seeds of oilseed rape are a valuable source of oil (45%) and protein (20%). The meal left after removing the oil is a useful animal feed and contain about 42% crude protein.

Oilseed rape has not been tested under climatic conditions of Kurdistan. In the summer seasons, the water resources are limited and the farmers in Kurdistan face difficulties to ensure the water supply is adequate to irrigate their summer field crops (including sunflower and sesame) as well as vegetables. Therefore it is of great importance to search for some alternative oil crops to be sown in winter. One of the possible alternative crops as a source for vegetable oil is winter oilseed rape. Winter varieties require a period of cold ('verbalization')

to flower, and with the availability of varieties which are suited to low rainfall, there is a good opportunity to grow this crop in Kurdistan.

The aim of this project is to test the performance of winter oilseed rape under climatic condition of Sulaymania district. The experiment will test the growth, morphological characteristics; yield components and oil and protein content. For the purpose of this project, I brought some winter oilseed rape varieties (Total of 12 varieties, 8 from Denmark and 4 from Germany) to be tested in the first stage under climatic condition of Sulaymania.

The research project started in the autumn of 2011, varieties were sown on different sowing dates in 2x2 m plots at the research station of Agricultural College in Backrajo. The data will be collected for statistical analysis and evaluation.

Note on Abstract: Testing performance of winter oilseed rape under climatic condition of Iraqi Kurdistan: the growth of the plants of the first year (2011-2012) was very poor and it was not possible to collect the necessary data to be analysed. But due to the importance this project, the experiment will be repeated for the second year (2012-2013) with more sowing dates.



### P07 Kafia M. Shareef Surchi (Kurdistan)

Assistant Professor and head of Chemistry Department, College of Science, University of Salahaddin, Erbil. She has over 20 years experience in Physical Chemistry in Environmental Chemistry. She has published in international scientific journals and conferences world-wide. She was the Dean of the College of Nursing, Hawler Medical University, 2004 – 2010. She has also acted as external examiner for MSc and PhD at several universities in Kurdistan.

#### Preparation and Utilization of Efficient Catalyst (zeolite) for Recycling Plastics

##### Abstract

The present proposal involves two main projects: the first one includes the synthesis of pure zeolite from agricultural wastes with high silica content like rice husk. The second project (or part of the study) is utilization of the prepared catalyst in plastic recycling for production of useful liquid products and energy.

Keywords: Rice husk, Zeolite, plastic recycling, agricultural waste



### P08 Karim Najjar (Sweden)

PhD student in Ergonomics-Lighting Design in Schools of Technology and Health, STH, Royal Institute of Technology, KTH, Stockholm, Sweden. MSc in Spatial Planning, Royal University of Technology (KTH) Sweden. Master course in Architectural Lighting Design, KTH. Has taught Architectural Lighting Design, Master Program, KTH, Architecture in Dohuk University, Iraq and for master students in the Higher Institute of Planning, Dohuk University. He also worked for the State Organisation for Tourism in hotels in Tekrit, Dohuk and Mosul.

#### Integrating CPV Technology with Infill Spaces in Our Cities

##### Abstract

Better land-use and sparing the land is our moral responsibility for future generations. Utilizing huge areas of land to generate electricity by horizontally mounted PV collectors or Concentrating Photovoltaic systems CPV add extra cost to per kilowatt-hour. In this paper, a novel solution of CPV system inside the urban fabric is presented to withdraw the need for dedicated land resources and reducing the cost of kilowatt-hour of electricity production. The author of this paper invented a radically new photovoltaic system in the form of giant transparent tube (solar-generators), composed of vertically suspended large units of "integrated concentrator solar modules" (lenses). With novel and simple mechanical movement, the system is able to pivot these lenses to track the movement of the sun across the sky, focusing its rays on high tech solar cells. With good efficiency, the modules should convert a large percentage of the sun's light to electricity by using a high tech-solar cell. The produced electricity can be fed to the main electricity net directly inside the city.

This paper will explore the potentials of converting the dispersed, small areas characteristic of many infill spaces within existing cities, towns

or neighborhoods, which are unsuitable for any infill development to a field installation for the Concentrating Photovoltaic System (CPV). A real investigation and survey of the qualities and quantities of these infill areas inside Erbil city has been conducted with regard to its suitability for such solar technology. A comparison between horizontally and vertically mounted CPV systems is made. A cost benefit analyses for this new system is done to address the potentials of integrating the CPV into the infill spaces in our cities. The paper shows that Erbil city has great potential with regard to solar and infill spaces availability. The result shows that vertically mounted CPV produces the most energy per unit of land area. CPV shows good opportunity to revitalize the unsuitable spaces inside the urban fabric for any infill development. The paper shows as well that producing clean and cheap electricity by PV within these abandoned areas would generate other economical benefits for the communities. Once the project is realized, the planner, the architect and the out-door lighting designers will be able to make use of this novel technology and approach.

Sub-chapters: 1-Infill development, 2-Integrated concentrator solar modules"(lenses) 3-horizontally and vertically mounted CPV systems.

Keywords: CPV, Land-use, revitalization, infill development



### P09 Erlende Paasche (Norway)

PhD candidate in sociology on Iraqi Kurdish Return Migration at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO). This research is part of the international research project, Possibilities and Realities of Return Migration (PREMIG), 2011–2014. BA and MA in Middle East Studies, University of Oslo. Has studied Arabic in Damascus and Cairo, and has fieldwork experience in Syria and Iraq

#### The Times of Return Migration

##### Abstract

On the basis of empirical research on Iraqi Kurdish migrants in Norway and England, consisting of 15 individual in-depth interviews and 4 focus group discussions in each location, this article looks at how these migrants decide whether to stay in the country of settlement or return to their country of origin, whether temporarily or permanently. Which factors are at play in their decision making? It is argued that return/stay decision making always has a temporal dimension to it, as migrants consider past events whose meaning change with time, assess present considerations ranging from the existential to the practical, and make comparative evaluations of their expected earning potentials and quality-of-life in the alternative futures 'here' and 'there'.

Moreover, preferences to return or stay may be altered gradually over time, for instance in terms of life style preferences, or dramatically by sudden events such as the occurrence of childbirth, return visits, family illness, graduation, or other so-called 'vital conjunctures'. In spite of this the temporal dimension of return migration often goes neglected in migration studies. This article therefore seeks to build on and expand Cwerner's conceptual tools for the analysis of the temporal aspects of migration, including the strange, heteronomous, asynchronous, remembered, collage, liminal, diasporic and nomadic times of migration. Interview data from two different host states with migrants from a rapidly changing country of origin, Iraqi Kurdistan, offer fertile empirical ground for the study of the times of return migration.

Keywords: Sociology, migration



### P10 Wladimir van Wilgenburg (UK)

Political analyst with a particular focus on Kurdish politics. MA, University of Utrecht's Conflict Studies program. MA dissertation on Kirkuk's Arab Political Spectrum based on first-hand research in Iraq. Is currently enrolled in the University of Exeter's MA Kurdish Studies program. He has written extensively for Jamestown Foundation publications. He also writes for the Kurdish newspaper Rudaw. He provides commentary and advice to a variety of media outlets, NGOs, and Think Tanks.

#### A Study of the Political Mobilization of Sunni Arabs in Kirkuk

##### Abstract

This presentation will focus on the impact of opportunity structures, framing efforts, and organizational structures and resources on the attempts of the Arab Nationalist Arab Political Council (APC) in Kirkuk to mobilize Arabs against Kurds. This is based on the field work and literature research I did in Kirkuk in 2011. I argue that the primordialist bias of many academics on the issue of Kirkuk prevents sound analysis and understanding of events. They often automatically assume that ethnic identities serve as the prime motivators of the people of Kirkuk. Disaffection about the lack of success of politicians to deliver services led Arabs in Kirkuk to mobilize against their own representatives

instead of the Kurds, during the Tunisian-inspired protests. This was also a result of the lack of organizational capabilities of the APC and lack of resources. Moreover, the APC suffered from a lack of support from Baghdad, and the population was not completely supportive of their discourses against other ethnic groups. In this light, based on my MA-thesis, there is a need for a more non-ethnic understanding of Kirkuk, and more research and analysis of the different perceptions within the different communities about their own representatives, and their perceived ethnic identities.

Most studies focus on understanding Kirkuk based on conflict resolution, or ethnic histories, instead of understanding the political realities of the different actors on the ground.

Keywords: Political mobilization theory, Kirkuk





### P11 Sam Hakki (USA)

Completed his orthopedic training in the UK (Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopedic Institute) and USA (Tampa General Hospital). Is currently Director of Orthopedic Research and Tenure Orthopedic Surgeon at Bay Pines VA Health Care System and affiliate Professor at the University of South Florida. He holds diverse patents.

#### Computerized Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation National Center in Kurdistan

##### Abstract

**Objective:** To establish a major national orthopedic and rehab center to serve the Peshmerga veterans, especially the amputees and the rest of the country with state of the art computer assisted navigation surgeries that will attract patients nationally and from the Middle East region including the Gulf countries.

##### Introduction:

The number of amputees has exponentially increased recently among Iraqis particularly among Kurdish people. While about 30% of the elderly population suffers from falls, 60% of amputees fall annually and the majority are home ridden and unable to participate in the construction of Kurdistan. There is a great need to improve on prosthetics, rehabilitation and orthopedic surgery to reduce the falling annual rate and improve the function of the artificial limb to mimic the normal knee.

For those who are not amputees, the rehab center will expedite their

early recovery from any surgery and help individuals to be able to go back to work sooner.

For those who need hip and knee replacement surgery, computer navigation is an attractive alternative to conventional surgery from an improved health accuracy point of view and business point of view for those who invest in this project.

##### Method:

- 1- Allocate a center (e.g. Erbil Hospital) or build a large Rehab Facility with a large Gym and adjunct 10 rooms' clinic, an Operating room x 2, a recovery large room and a receiving room.
- 2- Set up a budget for private investor or government or both as officials deem necessary.
- 3- The computerized equipment will cost an initial @ \$ 760K delivered to Erbil with a maintenance of @ \$10K a year.
- 4- Amputee clinic and prosthetics Lab will cost initially @ \$ 300K delivered to Erbil.
- 5- All computer navigation equipment can be purchased by Kurdistan officials through a sales person in Erbil.



### P12 Afsaneh Jolan (Australia)

Founding Director of the PsychResponse Psychological and Educational Centre. Masters in Education and Developmental Psychology and currently in the process of obtaining her clinical psychology. Has worked with children and adolescents with learning, developmental, emotional and behavioral issues; with refugees at her private practice and with the Transcultural Mental Health Centre at Cumberland Hospital. She assists refugees and migrants to better adjust to living in Australia.

#### Coping Strategies of Adolescent Muslim Girls Residing in Australia

##### Abstract

**Objectives:** The aim of the study was to comprehensively assess the coping strategies of adolescent Muslim girls residing in Australia. The relationship between the self-concept and coping strategies of these individuals were investigated. The results are likely to allow for the possibility of gaining better insight and developing interventions and programs that are religious and culture sensitive.

**Design:** A sample of 35 New South Wales students (ages 11-16) participated in this study. Students coping strategies and self-concept was investigated through use of Adolescent Coping Scale (ACS), and Self Description Questionnaire-II (SDQ-II) respectively.

**Result:** Demographic and background information obtained from the participants were summarized using frequency and descriptive analyses. The most commonly implemented coping strategies by more than 50% of the participants included, Seeking Spiritual Support, Seeking Relaxation Diversions and Wishful Thinking. The

results of the regression analyses indicated that in general, a strong sense of self made a significant positive contribution to effective coping strategies (e.g. seeking spiritual support and focusing on the positive). Other results included positive contribution of Emotional Stability to coping strategies such as seeking social support, ignoring the problem, and seeking professional support. Strong negative contribution of emotional stability to coping strategies such as tension reduction and keeping one's problems to one self, was also found.

**Conclusion:** The results of this study indicates that increasing the general self-concept, as well as emotional stability of adolescent Muslim girls, is likely to result in the usage of productive coping strategies such as seeking assistance in forms of Social, Spiritual and Professional support. School counsellors and educators can utilise this information to tailor services accordingly. In particular, using programs that target improving the self-worth and emotional adjustment of Muslim girls can decrease usage of non-productive coping strategies including keeping problem to self and tension reduction, which are associated with unhealthy adjustment.



### P13 Hakan Özoglu (USA)

Director of Middle Eastern Studies and Associate Professor of History, University of Central Florida. PhD in History, Ohio State University, BA in Social Anthropology, Istanbul University. He was on the faculty of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago, as the Endowed Ayaslı Senior Lecturer in Modern Turkish Studies (1997-2007). Has taught in different capacities for New York University, the University of Michigan, Loyola University at Chicago, and the Ohio Wesleyan University. His areas of research are Modern Turkey and the Kurds.

#### Final Years of Molla Mustafa Barzani in U.S. Intelligence

##### Abstract

My paper will focus on the final years of Mulla Mustafa Barzani as they were represented in US intelligence reports (1975-1979). More specifically, I will present several documents prepared by the CIA about the travel of Barzani to U.S. for medical treatment. The presentation will be more descriptive than argumentative aiming at providing audience with information about the U.S. views on Barzani in the late 1970s.

The documents will answer some specific questions about international negotiations about the fate of Mustafa Barzani. The following are some of these questions: Did the U.S. support the last Kurdish uprising headed by Mustafa Barzani? What was the nature of the U.S. support? What did Barzani request from the U.S. after the

Algiers Accord of 1975? What were behind-the-curtain negotiations of Mustafa Barzani's travel to the U.S.? What were the restrictions posed on Barzani while in treatment in the U.S.?

My main source for this research is the documents that are available to all researchers through the Freedom of Information Act and several memoirs and articles by U.S. foreign officers. When produced in the 1970s, most of these reports were classified as "secret." However, they were mostly declassified in 2006.

The paper will be structured in a way that it will allow its reader to make his/her own conclusions. Nevertheless, one conclusion will be inevitable for the reader that the U.S. has always been very much interested in Kurdish nationalism and the Kurds were a significant subject in the Cold War years.

Keywords: US Intelligence reports, Mustafa Barzani



### P14 Chemen Bajalan (Kurdistan)

MA in Human Rights from Queen's University, Belfast. BA in Law, Baghdad University. Her work experience includes management of program on rural rehabilitation, as investigator in the courts and attorney general. Her research and publications are in the areas of: minorities' language rights, protection of the right of minorities, accountability and justice, the rights of indigenous peoples, the scope of using ECHR articles, and formal and substantive equality.

#### A Comparative Study of the Kurdish Minority Rights to Language in Iraq and Turkey Abstract

##### Abstract

This thesis aims to provide a comparative analysis of the states' policies in Iraq and Turkey in relation to the Kurdish minority's use of their mother tongue. In international law, there is no coherent clear package about the state's obligations towards minority language

rights. The freedom to use the mother tongue in private and the freedom from forced assimilation are among the fundamental basic rights – and there is no doubt about them in international law. However, the minorities right to language, in addition to its use in private, involves both using the language officially and as an educational medium. That brings the necessity of the state's positive obligation beyond mere 'allowing' for the use of minority language.

Keywords: International law, minority, language right



### P15 Süleyman Sanli (Turkey)

PhD candidate, Department of Anthropology, Yeditepe University, Turkey. Visiting scholar at the Moshe Dayan Center, Tel Aviv University, (2011-2012) with a long term scholarship by the Israeli Government. He is conducting anthropological fieldwork on Jews who migrated to Israel from the east and southeast of Turkey

#### A Forgotten Heritage: The Jews of Kurdistan

##### Abstract

Kurdish Jews lived in about two hundred villages and towns throughout Kurdistan. Their total number in 1950, just before they left for Israel, was estimated to be about twenty-five thousand. The traditional history of Kurdish Jewries can be found between two biblical verses, 2 Kings 17:6, which mention their exile from Israel, and Isaiah 27:13, which prophesies their return. Kurdish Jews believe themselves to be descendants of the exiles of Samaria, the capital of the ancient kingdom of Israel. A medieval Jewish traveler, Rabbi Benjamin of Tudela visited Kurdistan in the year 1170 and this tradition was first mentioned in his itineraries.

In this paper, it is stated that with the beginnings of Jewish settlement in the Land of Israel, Jews from Kurdistan were among the first Near Eastern Jews to move there. Between 1920 and 1926, Kurdish Jews emigrated in larger numbers. With the establishment of the state in 1948, all of Kurdish Jewry migrated to Israel. Many preferred to live in Jerusalem in their own neighborhoods. Others settled in rural areas in

Jerusalem or in villages, where they continued to farm as in Kurdistan. Of those who settled in cities, most were at first manual laborers, but some eventually prospered as the owners of their own businesses in various branches of the construction industry.

In addition to that, Kurdish Jews in Israel follow closely the struggle of the Kurds for independence. The legendary Kurdish leader Mullah Mu afa Barzani visited old family friends in Israel. Since 1992, when it became possible to journey to Iraq, many Kurdish Jews have returned to visit former homes and old friends. Kurdish Jews in Israel celebrate a Kurdish festival, Sehrane, once a year during the festival of Tabernacles (Sukkot). They sing Kurdish songs at weddings and other events. All this is in harmony with Israel's policy of encouraging political friendships in the region.

To conclude the main goal of this paper is to remind multicultural richness of the lands of Kurdistan by giving a brief historical background of Kurdish Jews who once lived here. Additionally, due to the fact that Israel is a country that was established through migrations from all over the world, I examined social, cultural, economic and political situation of Jews of Kurdistan since Israel's foundation.



### P16 Hamid Teimouri (Sweden)

PhD candidate, Stockholm's University. BA in ethnology and an MA in education, Södertörn's University. He has worked as an interpreter, treatment assistant and is currently a personal assistant. He has have written a number of articles in Kurdish and in Swedish about society, politics, and science and translated books from Swedish to Kurdish language.

#### Impact of the Language Barrier in Integration of Immigrant Children into Public Schools

##### Abstract

Objective: To study immigrants' students difficulties with study in Swedish language at school, and their effort to overcome the problem. Methods: Data was collected through interviews and observation with 16 student eight girls and eight boys from different nationalities.

Result: In today's political debates and discussions concerning school, the concept of "education for all" is continually brought up by authorities. But what exactly do they mean by this concept? The school's high vision is to work on inclusion and integration and reduce segregation, but unfortunately the result is more segregation than inclusion. My focus was actually on how the theory is working in reality. The result has indicated that the concept "education for all" is often a theory regarding immigrant student. In order to reach

the goal of the mentioned concept, a school where all students have the opportunity to achieve these objectives through education based on the individual needs is necessary. Without the equal right to education and understanding of the school subject, we never obtain the concept of "education for all" in reality. Conclusion: Immigrant students have some special needs which are different from the native speaker student; satisfying their needs has a significant impact on their education, as well as their future in the resettlement country. A prerequisite for a successful education for students with an immigrant background is the school's high visions to work on inclusion and integration and reduce segregation. Unfortunately in reality it does not work. During the time I carried out the present study I have seen the obvious differences in education for immigrants students and native speaker students.

Keywords: Education for all, Immigrants student, integration, segregation



**P17 Aziz Mamoyan (Russia)**

Faculty of Oriental Studies, Yerevan State University. He has been working as a journalist since 1983. He has been editor of the “Botan” - the body section of Kurdish writers in Armenia and chief editor of Groan Homeland, Moscow. Chairman of the Federal National Cultural Autonomy of Kurds of the Russian Federation. He is a member of the Russian Union of Journalists and the International PEN-Club and a published author.

**Language as a Main Ingredient of National Identity**

**Abstract**

Language is a basis of human culture in a general sense of this word. Language is a precondition of existence of each nation. Language unites people and keeps them as a nation. We cannot imagine national unity without a mutual language. It's impossible. In order for a divided ethnos to integrate itself into the united commonwealth and constitute the single nation, they need everyday communication which is impossible without a mutual language. Building a nation starts from the moment people are united, But this is difficult to realize without the presence of a mutual language.

Kurds speak several dialects and subdialects (Kurmanji, Sorani, Zazaki, Luri, Avramani, etc). They use two different types of alphabets (Arabic and Latin alphabet). Hundreds of newspapers, magazines, websites and blogs use both types of alphabets, but those their readers cannot read both. Dialects are the treasure of any language. They need to be developed and enriched. Later they will be a source for the enrichment of the literature of a state.

Almost all Kurds can read in the Latin alphabet. The structure of the Arabic alphabet does not coincide with the phonetic composition of Kurdish language. Because of this, there is a real difficulty in using the Arabic Alphabet.

It is important to note that:

- The Arabic alphabet was one of the means used by outside forces during the conquest and subjugation of our national mind.
- If Kurds want to start building a national unity, they need a single alphabet.
- It's time to begin teaching Kurdish language with modern methods in linguistic and pedagogy. For this we need that:
  - o the grammar be leveled with present day linguistic and scientific Kurdology;
  - o research institutes and centers focus on the Kurdish language;
  - o the pedagogical institutes and colleges educate Kurdish speaking teachers ;
  - o each Kurdish mother, who is the first teacher of her children, should master her native language.



**P18 Kaziwa Salih (Canada)**

Postgraduate diploma in Journalism, Sheridan College, and a certificate from York University on Migrations and Forced Refugee Issues, Bachelor's degree in Communication Studies from York University, Canada. Is currently enrolled in Graduate Program in Humanities at the same university. Two-time award winner of the “Amita” Festival in Italy dedicated to Art & Literature for her short stories. Was Editor-in-Chief of *Nwekar Magazine* (1992-2001) and *Nvar Magazine* (1998-2010). Founder of the Canadian Anti-Genocide Project.

**From the Indigenous Culture of Genocide to Post Migration Genocide**

**Abstract**

Background and Problem

Studies of genocide have an intimate relationship with political, psychological and cultural sociology. However, the culture of genocide and victimization of the collective community has been overlooked in studies on genocide. The genocidal process can be transmitted to dominant, host countries through acculturation and diffusion. This process of adaptation can alter the social and psychological character of dominant and sub-dominant cultures within the host country. The result is a normalization of violence, communication barriers, and disregard of the laws and regulations of the governing country.

Objective

This paper argues that genocide inherently has a culture. It examines cultural traditions that form a society, pre and post-genocide, that is intended to normalize the genocidal process. It inspects the transmission of the culture of genocide to host countries, by tracing the culture's connection to, and its effects on, the host culture. Four

concepts have been devised to analyze these cultural phenomena: Genociders, describes perpetrators of genocide, as well as the collective agents and individuals, who are guilty of this crime in different forms; Genocidee, refers to the entire community, not only to individual victims of genocide who experience persecution in their homelands; Verbal Genocide, signifies verbal abuse of the victims, pre and post genocide. The production of the post-migration culture of genocide is a component of verbal genocide; Post-migration genocide, refers to the ‘genociders’ reproduction of verbal, psychological, and social inflictions on ‘genocidees.’

Methodology

This paper is a case study and employs an ethnographic approach. My discussion draws on my experience as a victim of collective genocide and a witness of pre-migratory and post-migratory genocide. In support of my research, I have spent significant periods of time in several Arab countries, observing their cultures and customs, and learning their language.

Conclusion:

The culture of genocide is transformable in trans-cultural or ethno-cultural forms and can mutate within the dominant and subordinate cultures of the host country.



**P19 Yvonne van der Bij (Netherlands)**

Dutch writer, photographer and artist. She has three travel guides (text and photography) about Guatemala, Bolivia and Morocco. She has three projects in Kurdistan: a travel guide about Kurdistan: *Kurdistan a Companion*, *Kurdun, in Search of Kurdish Identity* (interviews and portraits) and *Hapsa & Harkje: Two Strong Women from East and West*.

**European Tourism in Kurdistan KRG**

**Abstract**

This presentation 'European Tourism in Kurdistan KRG' is about:

- my experience in Latin America and the Middle East
- the idea for the travel guide: 'Kurdistan: A Companion'
- the cultural and natural attractions of Kurdistan for the European tourist
- archaeology and history
- religious places
- people of Kurdistan I (inhabitants, tribes, languages, religions)
- people of Kurdistan II (dress, food, traditions, customs)
- nature of Kurdistan (mountains, waterfalls, lakes)
- highlights of Kurdistan I (Erbil, province of Erbil, province of Dohuk)
- highlights of Kurdistan II (Sulaimany, province of Sulaimany)
- accommodation and transportation
- recommendations for tourism

- sustainable tourism
- travel company Kurdex

Objectives/goals

- to sketch the possibilities in Kurdistan KRG for European tourists
- to face the problem of transport, infrastructure, hotels, visa
- to find solutions: build new roads, build middle class/traditional hotels
- to establish tourism education
- to encourage sustainable tourism
- methods and data: various publications
- expected results:
  - gaining attention for European Tourism in Kurdistan
  - gaining attention in Europe for tourism to Kurdistan
  - increase of European tourism
  - establishing of tourism institutes and organisations in Kurdistan

Keywords: Culture, nature and people



**P20 Dylaan Dowlati (USA)**

Holds degrees in medicine, neurocritical care and MBA/HCM (Master of Business Administration with specialty in Health Care Management). Has published papers and participated in national and international seminars and conferences several times. Is a member of the American Medical Association, Neurocritical Care Society, and American College of Healthcare Executives, and Colorado Association of Healthcare Executives.

**How to Promote Health Care in Kurdistan**

**Abstract**

Health care is an extremely important component of the infrastructure in any community. Free Kurdistan should seriously take health care promotion into consideration in order to reach the level of neighboring countries and even surpass them. Based on my 17 years experience in health care in Iran and the United States, this is a very possible outcome with the cooperation of the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) and private sectors.

We first need to recognize the problems with the health care system in Kurdistan and solve these situations by taking immediate action. Some of the many problems are: the majority of health care cost

is covered by the KRG which for a modern health care system will be astronomical in numbers, lack of private health insurance, lack of public education, lack of modern medical education and re-evaluation of health care providers, lack of modern hospitals, and very importantly, a lack of an effective health care management.

The purpose of this article is to not only identify flaws with the health care system in Kurdistan, but to create solutions for these problems that provide a strategic plan for health care system, SWOT\* analysis, and present a road map to success.

\*SWOT: Strength, Weakness, Opportunities, and Threat.

Keywords: Health Care Strategic Planning, Health Care Management, Health Care in Kurdistan.



### P21 Ava Homa (Canada)

Master in Language and Literature; Master in English and Creative Writing. Author of *Echoes from the Other Land* —nominated for the World's Largest Short Story Award: 2011 Frank O'Connor International Award and placed 6th in the top ten winners of the CBC Reader's Choice Contest for Giller Prize. Writes for Kurdistan Tribune and TheKurdish.com. She teaches Creative Writing and English in George Brown College of Toronto.

#### From Ethnic to Political Genocide of the Kurds: Is Genocide Preventable?

##### Abstract

Indiscriminate massacre of the Kurds in 1980s was ignored for decades before it was recently recognized in some countries (Canada, United States) as an act of genocide. Identifying the crime of crimes, the destruction of an entire group of people, is worthwhile when it is a step towards prevention. Unlike natural disasters, genocide contains a human agency and is therefore, apt for study of

prevention. Understanding the act includes finding out what genocide aspires to annihilate because aiming at a group of people who are only connected by ideas, is a desperate attempt to wreck a bullet-proof body: an identity. This paper focuses on the terminology of genocide vs. ethnic cleansing, introduces political genocide: a product of postmodern era, and suggests approaches to prevent political and ethnic genocide. The goal is to move from the conceptualization of the malevolence to preventing these atrocities from reoccurring.

Keywords: Ethnic genocide, political genocide, prevention



### P22 Salar (Shoresh) Mamli (Iran)

Master in Industrial Management; Bachelor of Public Management. He is currently lecturer at Mahabad Payam Noor University, campus of Management Science. Has 15 years of artistic experience in Kurdish music. He has been studying the music industry structure and economic and social impacts of the arts. His research interest is creative industries and its applications and impacts for Kurdish people.

#### Introduction to Creative Industries in Kurdistan: Definition, Impacts and Policy

##### Abstract

During the past decade, many governments around the world have recognized the vital role of creative industries. In spite of the various economic importance of the creative industries in various countries, they have gradually become an increasingly important partner in economic and cultural regeneration. Recently, creative industries have improved to a great extent as a result of technologies, competition and globalization. Lately, creative industries have become the object of public policy discussion throughout many countries. UNCTAD has put forth a significant focus upon the potential ability that these industries have on developing countries. According to UNCTAD, creativity is increasingly being recognized as a key strategic asset driving economic growth.

The fourth largest group in the Middle East being the Kurds with the active international Diaspora could easily be distinguished ethnically, linguistically and culturally from the other various nations

within the Middle East. The Kurds have the potential to use these cultural differences as an asset to develop and plan their own creative industries. Creative industries have economic, cultural and social aspects which can play a vital role in economic development in Kurdistan. However, the government has made no progress towards the study and development of the creative industries. The main aim of this study is to discuss the role that creative industries can have upon Kurdistan in a national and international sense.

By considering the previous studies that have been made, an analysis has been made to best define the creative industries structure. This presentation will focus on the concepts of the creative industries and the overall impact it has within Kurdish society. This study will conclude that creative industries must use policy making as an important driver for personal and economic growth for Kurdish people.

Keywords: Cultural industries, creative industries, development strategy cultural and art management department, economic department



### P23 Soma Ahmad (Austria)

She studied Political Science as well as Arabic and Islamic Science in the University of Vienna. Her research focuses on State & Democracy and Gender Studies. Furthermore, she has contributed to publications on Political Islam in Austria as well as on the current situation in Kurdistan. She is currently working for the Austrian NGO LeEZA, which supports projects in Iraqi-Kurdistan, as well as in the Kurdish region of Turkey.

#### Role of NGOs in the Democratisation Process of Iraqi-Kurdistan

##### Abstract

This paper will shed light on the ambiguous role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and show that these can influence the process of democratization in different ways: they can either spur or hinder a democratic system. Evidently, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can act as a mouthpiece for the people's needs and can be the consequence of discontentment with political decisions. Conversely, they can play a significant role in maintaining the prevalent system.

After 1991, and especially after the war in 2003, many NGOs enacted human rights projects, especially concerning the promotion of women's rights. The main actors in the 1990s were international organizations, whereas nowadays, three groups of non-governmental organizations can be identified: international NGOs, local NGOs and local-party-affiliated NGOs.

In order to conduct a research on these types of organizations, I

carried out a field study by making semi-structured interviews with various renowned NGOs stationed in Kurdistan.

In the course of the research, many internal mechanisms have crystallized which are crucial for understanding the relationship between civil society and the political level. One of the main findings is the existence of strong dependencies between stakeholders, such as the government, the people, donors and NGOs themselves that in turn restrict their work. As such, an NGO is equally dependent on people's continuing needs and concerns, which in the end legitimise the organization's agenda. Furthermore, a lack of communication between NGOs has become evident in my research, which hampers opportunities for possible cooperation that would support and foster the projects. This non-communication is also a sign of the rivalry between NGOs; internal fights on resources often hinder an efficient implementation of projects, finally leading to a failure of their work. It would be reasonable for these organizations to reflect upon the quality of their work and figure out more appropriate strategies.

Keywords: Democracy, transition to democracy, civil society



### P24 Sarook Akram Saeed Sarky (UK)

PhD student, Geography and Environment, University of Southampton, UK. His doctoral research is on "How to Develop a Nascent Ecotourism in Kurdistan". MSc in Conservation and Land Management, School of Environment and Natural Resources, Bangor University, UK; BSc in Forestry, Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry, University of Duhok, Kurdistan. Has worked as Assistant Researcher at the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry and more recently as Assistant Lecturer.

#### Planning for the Development of a Nascent Ecotourism Industry in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: A Preliminary Stakeholder Analysis

##### Abstract

In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, there are numerous undeveloped areas with natural attractions and cultural heritage which offer potential ecotourism activities for national and international tourists. An ecotourism industry has great potential to contribute to the Region's environment and economic improvement. However, for this potential to be realised, early consultation with stakeholders is important. This study has, through a preliminary stakeholder analysis, sought different stakeholders' views on options for ecotourism development. It also aims to engage with local community members to examine their current understanding of ecotourism and community development, so as to facilitate their subsequent involvement as stakeholders in early stage ecotourism planning.

Tourism/ecotourism stakeholders, including government, private agencies and NGOs, were consulted to discuss potential places and goods and services amenable to ecotourism. Following an initial

workshop based on the Ketso stakeholder consultation technique, a set of semi-structured stakeholder interviews was undertaken through 'snowball' sampling. Local residents' attitudes towards a proposed rural ecotourism development were then investigated by conducting informal, rapid appraisal interviews in three different communities. Relevant policy documents concerning three proposed ecotourism projects were also collated from a start-up conference coordinated by the Ecotourism Committee / Kurdistan Regional Government.

The initial results reveal: i) local community participation is seldom considered by other stakeholders; ii) stakeholder awareness of current tourism/ecotourism initiatives is low; and iii) some stakeholders have a limited understanding of key ecotourism concepts. Four key suggestions arise from this study that would help current tourism to survive and ecotourism development: first, there is a demand for promoting environmental and tourism awareness among stakeholders; second, there is an urgent need for more cooperation and understanding among all stakeholders; third, there is a need for intense training to develop expert tourism staff; and fourth, there should be an allocated budget for tourism/ecotourism projects.

Keywords: ecotourism, stakeholder, Kurdistan Region



### P25 Nabaz Rasheed Khwarahm, Jadunundan Dash, Peter M. Atkinson (UK)

BSc in General Biology, University of Sulaimani. In 2008, he was granted the European Union Scholarship Erasmus Mundus; a two-year Master program that took place in four EU countries namely Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and UK, to study Environmental Science. He was recently awarded the Student Travel Scholarship by the USA National Phenology Network Advisory Committee, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for an oral presentation at the Phenology 2012 conference.

#### Variability of Two Key Aeroallergens and their Relation to Meteorological Variables in the United Kingdom

##### Abstract

Hay fever (seasonal allergic rhinitis), an allergy caused by allergic pollen grains released during the pollen season, normally runs from spring to November in the UK. In the USA, hay fever is estimated to affect up to 25% of the adult and 40% of children. It accounts for 2 million school days, \$6 million lost work days, and more than \$3 billion medical expenditure annually. Thus, hay fever is related to public health and it can be avoided through constructing pollen forecasting models. Constructing accurate forecasting models for grass and birch pollen, the two most important aeroallergens, requires understanding of the relationships between pollen count in the air and meteorological variables. The aim of this research was to build a picture of the direction of the influence of meteorological variables on atmospheric pollen concentrations of grass and birch. Spatio-temporal variation in daily birch and grass pollen counts in the air together with daily meteorological variables were investigated

for nine pollen monitoring sites for the period 2000-2010 in the UK. An active pollen count sampling method was employed at each of the monitoring stations to sample pollen from the atmosphere. The mechanism of this method is based on the volumetric spore traps of Hirst design (Hirst, 1952).

Meteorological variables such as daily rainfall; maximum, minimum and average temperatures; cumulative sum Sun duration; wind speed; and relative humidity were related to the pollen count for the pre-peak, post peak and the entire pollen season.

The methods employed in this study can be easily adapted in Kurdistan, and it could be a turning point in setting up pollen monitoring stations in Kurdish cities that would be of great value, not only in the public health field, but also in other scientific disciplines such as Agriculture, Aerobiology and Palynology.

Keywords: Hay fever, grass, birch, forecasting model, pollen, public health



### P26 Thomas Schmidinger (Austria)

Political scientist and lecturer at the University of Vienna and University of Applied Science in Vorarlberg (Austria). Worked as a research fellow, University of Minnesota (USA) and University of Prishtina (Kosovo). Secretary General of the Austrian Society for Kurdish Studies, co-editor of the Journal 'Kurdische Studien'. Researches and teaches about Kurdistan, Migration, Political Islam, Middle East politics, Sudan, State Theory and International Relations.

#### The Kurdish Diaspora in Austria and Its Use of Media and An Imagined Kurdistan

##### Abstract

This paper intends to show how political changes and transformations in Kurdistan influenced the Kurdish Diaspora in Austria. It analyzes the question of whether or not the imagined Kurdistan of Kurdish organizations in Austria matches with the reality of the living conditions and references of the Kurdish Diaspora communities. Therefore, the consumption and use of media by the Kurdish Diaspora in Austria is analyzed. This article will present the Kurdistan imagined by Austrian Kurds, and the reality of their virtual Kurdistan by exploring their use of media and their political and social activities.

This paper will first demonstrate the context of the development of the Kurdish Diaspora in Austria. As the heterogeneity of the Diaspora is a consequence of the heterogeneity of the land of origin and the different histories of Kurdish populations in the different national

states, this article will start with an overview on the variety of Kurdish populations and their migration history to Europe.

After an overview over the development of the Kurdish Diaspora in Austria this paper will demonstrate the pluralism of the Kurdish Diaspora by a study of the use of media by Austrian Kurds and the relations between different Kurdish groups with each other.

A quantitative investigation is done with a total of 140 Kurds in Vienna. These were polled by means of a standardised questionnaire. Alongside country of birth and their parents' country of birth, individual related data such as age, education, mother tongue (German, Kurmancî, Zazaki, Soranî, Goranî, Turkish, Farsi or Arabic) and gender were queried. For the qualitative part of this study, further qualitative interviews were carried out with Kurds from all parts of Kurdistan. As well as the above, used throughout this study are longstanding participant.

Keywords: Kurdish diaspora, Austria, media





### P27 Chato Rasool (Sweden)

Lecturer in psychology at Linköping University, Sweden. His research interest is in the field of social psychology, cultural psychology and group and organizational psychology. He also teaches courses in health and social psychology, group psychology, work and organizational psychology, and acts as supervisor for student theses in diverse areas of psychology.

#### Linköping University in Sweden Offers Kurdish Students PhD Studies

##### Abstract

Introduction and background: Access to quality higher educational institutions, as well as good opportunities for independent research is considered vital for a modern and prosperous society. What we observe in the Kurdish province in Iraq today is rapid development in many areas, such as transparency in governance and security of person. Quality higher educational institutions are important for every society, and Kurdistan is no exception. But as yet, more development of such institutions is required in Kurdistan.

Aims and objectives:

- 1 The overall goal of this project is to establish an exchange agreement between Linköping University and various universities in the Kurdistan province of Iraq.
- 2 A second goal is to create opportunities for scientists and academics from both Linköping University and Kurdish universities

to initiate cooperation in terms of supervision of graduate students, collection of research materials, and writing scientific papers.

- 3 A third goal is to create favourable conditions for Kurdish universities enabling them to establish networks with various international universities, in this case a Swedish university.

On-going process: in collaboration with the Swedish Consulate, a scholar from Linköping university has met with the president of Salahaddin University, the head of the department of the Law School, and the head of the Sociology/Psychology department in February 23 and 24 2011 in Erbil.

Conclusion: The Faculty of Arts and Science at Linköping University is interested in receiving graduate students at the doctoral level from Kurdish universities, under the condition that their studies would be financed by their own universities. Linköping University will provide postgraduate courses and supervisors, and the students will have an excellent opportunity to meet with other graduate students.

Keywords: Higher education, collaboration, PhD studies



### P28 Asmaiel Mersham (South Korea)

PhD candidate, Political Science Department of the Middle East, Graduate School of International Area Studies, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, South Korea. MA in Inter-Asia NGO Studies (MAINS) from SungKongHoe University, South Korea. Bachelor in Veterinarian Medicine and Surgery, Baghdad University. Interpreter for KOICA in vocational training and workshops offered to participants from KRG and Iraq. Assistant teacher for Kurdish language and culture for Zaytun unit's deployed in Erbil. Business adviser and translator with Korean Export and Logistic Company, he also manages his private export company.

#### Challenges and Effectiveness of KRG and Iraq Participants in KOICA Development Program

##### Abstract

Many governments (different ministries) and companies don't train individuals for international assignments because they believe, "If you're effective in Kurdistan, you'll be effective in Seoul." This is a myth. Although excellent technical skills among the ministries officials are a must, expatriate managers must also be able to work with diverse groups--including foreign governments and foreign employees of subsidiaries. To work with these diverse groups, they must recognize and accept international training, business and societal norms quite different from their own. In addition, multinational firms today compete on the effectiveness and competence of their core human talent around the world. Increasingly, these core individuals from different ministries are being required to operate effectively across a variety of national borders and in a greater number of cross-national ministerial assignments. These international assignees, including all employees working outside of their own national borders (e.g., parent country nationals, third country nationals, host country nationals), have collectively become vital for the success of national government and

multinational firms. These international assignees fill critical staffing needs in subsidiaries, manage key projects, transfer knowledge and corporate culture across geography, work on multi dimensional teams, and perform many other critical tasks for their firms.

International assignments can be very challenging personally. While immersed in new cultural environments, international assignees are out of their own comfort zones and are susceptible to a variety of challenges such as the inability to speak the host national language, the inability to cope with the stress of culture differences and shock, the inability to interact effectively with host nationals, time line difference and instructional media, and the like.

Past research suggests that individuals who are not predisposed or prepared to confront these challenges may perform poorly, isolated and be maladjusted, etc.

Given the criticality of their roles and the associated challenges of living and working in another country, maximizing the cross-national effectiveness of international assignees has become an increasingly important function for researchers and human resources (HR) practitioners alike. From a strategic perspective, optimizing the effectiveness of international assignees – core talent for most multinational firms' is a significant HR activity.



**P29 Jeffrey John Barnes (USA)**

PhD student, Department of History, University of Akron, Ohio as well as a Master in history. Undergraduate degree in mathematics from Malone University. His research focuses on Stateless Peoples of the Middle East and North Africa. He will be having an essay on editorial cartoons in Mandate Palestine published in a forthcoming book entitled *Postcolonial Comics: Texts, Events, Identities* sometime next year.

**Remembering Genocide: Online Memory of Anfal and Halabja and the Next Generation of Kurdish Citizens**

**Abstract**

Saddam Hussein’s genocidal Anfal campaign and Halabja massacre in 1988 represented a low point for Kurdish national aspirations as the Kurdish people of Iraq were subjected to some of the worst crimes against humanity of the contemporary age. In the years following the murder of anywhere between 50,000 to 200,000 individuals, Kurdish society has sought to preserve the memory of the horrors of these days. Historians, anthropologists, and other social scientists have traced the development of Kurdish memories of the genocide. Throughout the 1990s, with the establishment of the no-fly zone and de facto autonomy for Iraqi Kurdistan, Kurdish nationalist discourse focused on Halabja as the most potent image of Kurdish suffering at the hands of the former regime and sought to restore national pride. Following the U.S.-led invasion in 2003, Kurdish nationalist

discourse sought to explicitly link the genocide to the Holocaust and other episodes of mass violence in an effort to legitimize the Kurdish region’s position in the new Iraq.

These previous scholarly works, while enriching, fail to offer much in terms of how memory of the genocide can aid in the reconstruction of Kurdistan. Much of this is due to their focus on print sources and archival material written by either participants in or victims of the genocide. The present paper seeks to depart from this approach through examining a number of new blogs and online forums that are bringing the memory of Anfal and Halabja to a new generation of Kurdish citizens. In doing so, it analyzes how that memory has been constructed to reflect the increasingly democratic nature of the Kurdish Regional Government and proposes suggestions for additional means of bringing the memory of the genocide online so individuals coming of age in a post-Saddam Kurdistan will be able to embrace a democratic future.



**P30 Fazil Moradi (Germany)**

Doctoral researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology and at the Department of Anthropology and Philosophy at the University of Halle, Germany. His research project is integrated in the International Max Planck Research School on Retaliation, Mediation and Punishment.

**The Ba’th Regime’s State of Exception: Configuration of de facto Sovereignty or Operation Al-Anfāl**

**Abstract**

The Ba’th party under the leadership of Saddam Hussein exercised its sovereign power through relegation of Iraqi citizens to a situation where their rights were deliberately deferred. The paper is an attempt at studying the violent history of the Ba’th party. It focuses on how the Ba’thist governance translated domestic and international law, religion, and Pan-Arab ideology into technologies of state and nation formation that indefinitely suspended the universal rights of the Kurdish population. Its central theme is “Operation al-Anfāl” in 1987-88, taken to reveal a “state of exception” as it turned the Kurdistan Region into a “profane geography” and a zone of exception, allowing for systematic, unrestricted, and sacralized violence. In more specific terms, by particularly focusing on Operation al-Anfāl, I will investigate how authority, law and violence combined to configure

spaces of sovereign power, practiced from 1979-2003. First, it theorizes how sovereignty was produced and maintained through practices exercised upon the rights of the Kurdish population, (re-) producing violent social and political ordering. Second, it maps the ways in which religion, Ba’thist ideology, domestic and international law and violence were employed in the Operation al-Anfāl.

Operation al-Anfāl, which was entangled in the state formation process, signifies both legal and religious justifications for the use of force and practices that radically displaced and suspended the life of the Kurdish population. Here, I wish to chart and understand the *de facto* configuration of sovereignty (to protect or to exterminate with impunity) both within and beyond the modern state and its constitutive idea of the rule of territory and people through a philosophical and anthropological perspective. In so doing, I aim at demonstrating a very active interpretation necessary for the practices of coming to terms with the “past” human rights violations.



### P31 Edith Szanto (Kurdistan / Canada)

PhD candidate in Religious Studies, University of Toronto and Lecturer at the American University of Iraq, Sulaimani, where she teaches Middle Eastern history and comparative religion. MA from the University of Texas, Austin. She spent a year and a half in Syria as a Fulbright scholar, researching popular Islamic practices and working for the UN. She is currently finishing her dissertation on "Twelver Shi'i Piety in and around the Shrine of Sayyida Zaynab."

#### Preaching Piety in Sulaimani

##### Abstract

Sulaimani is better known for its liberalism, culture, and as a destination for regional tourists, than for its religious piety. However, my research over the last few months has revealed the intricate complexities of Islamic practices and discourses in the city. In this paper, I will examine Islamic pious discourses in Sulaimani on the one hand, as well as how these relate to larger religious discourses in Kurdish and Iraqi society. In order to do this, I analyze interviews conducted with local Muslim clerics in Sulaimani, as well as the religious sermons they give. I have conducted interviews with the help of a local research assistant and I have attended dozens of sermons at a variety of mosques. I visited mosques of affluent and working-class communities, as well as Sufi, Twelver Shi'i and Salafi establishments all over the city.

I have spoken with religious clerics, the women who regularly attend mosques and prayer-circles, laymen, and both Kurdish and Arab youth. In my interviews, I have been focusing on these clerics' views on women and children's rights, ethnic and sectarian differences and tensions. I analyze these views with regard to class, education, and other categories of identity. Overall, I show that Islamic piety in Sulaimani is influenced by a number of socio-economic and historical factors, which raises pious discourses to a more philosophical level. Concretely, it means that piety in Sulaimani is more tolerant and intellectually oriented than elsewhere in Kurdistan. I intend for this paper and the research project this paper is part of to shed light on religious harmonies and discords at the grass-roots level in the Kurdish Autonomous Region and greater Iraq.

Keywords: Islam in Kurdistan, sociology of religion



### P32 Bayar Mostafa Sevedeen (Bayar Dosky) (Kurdistan)

PhD in Modern History —Middle East specialty— University of Mosul. MA, University of Duhok. Lecturer and researcher, Faculty of Humanities, University of Duhok and Researcher at the Research Center, Erbil. Has published: *British Policy Towards Turkey and its Impact in Kurdistan*, in Arabic and Kurdish (2006, 2010), *Turkey and Iraqi Kurdistan: Two Hesitant Neighbors*, in Arabic and Kurdish (2008, 2009), *Kurdish Question in U.S. Policy Towards Turkey* (2009), and *Immoral Partnership: U.S., Turkey & War on PKK* in Arabic (ready for publication).

#### KRG & the Kurds of the Neighboring Countries: Political Tendencies of KRG towards the Kurds of Turkey, Iran and Syria since 2003

##### Abstract

2003 is the considered the most developed year for the KRG since it has successfully terminated a decade of "struggling for survival 1992-2003". KRG and its institutions have been recognized legally and formally within the new Iraq after Saddam's era. The quick victory of their allies, the U.S, over Saddam's regime has led them to gain a regional and international significance that they have never had before. The Kurds' friends and foes have agreed upon the fact that the Region has witnessed its "golden age" and that its "people's dream" has been realized since 2003, regardless of challenges and

obstacles. The new situation of the KRG has its great impact in general on the Middle East and the Kurds, in particular. This paper discusses some issues such as: What are the effects of KRG on the Kurds in the neighboring countries? How does the KRG consider those? Is there a certain policy the KRG holds towards "the Kurdish national Project"? What determines that policy? Are those considered essential opportunities for the KRG, or a constraint factor which hinders its movement? What are the variables that affect the relations, trends and tendencies of the KRG towards neighboring Kurds? How do the economic relationships of the KRG effect its politics? Where do the USA and Baghdad government stand with regards to this policy?

Key words: KRG policy, Kurdish of Syria, Turkey and Iran. Kurdish national movement in Middle East. US fringe policy

## Posters



### P33 Mari Toivanen (Finland)

Master's degree from Paris IV Sorbonne (France). She is currently completing her doctoral dissertation at the University of Turku (Finland). Her research interests include identity and belonging from the perspective of language, ethnicity and religion, but also young Kurds' transnational ties to the area of Kurdistan, and aspirations of return migration.

#### Kurdish Diaspora throughout Western and Northern Europe

##### Abstract

Intensified migratory movements have resulted in individuals fostering ties and loyalties across nation-state borders. This is particularly the case with the Kurdish diaspora that has expanded throughout Western and Northern Europe. Kurdish diasporans' access to information and communication technologies (ICT) has arguably facilitated the maintenance of these transnational connections, particularly among younger generations with Kurdish background. Also the perceived return migration to the autonomous Kurdish area of Northern Iraq and its implications have recently begun to draw the attention of international scholars.

In Northern Europe, multiculturalism as an ideology and *état d'être* are currently under debate. However, the effects of the diasporas, in this case the Kurdish diaspora towards the societies of departure, remains largely unexplored. The Kurdish diaspora in Northern Europe, and in this case Finland, provides an intriguing case since Finland is

a society known for its technological reality. The timing of this study is relevant as Kurdish migrants' children are currently graduating from Finnish higher education institutions and making future plans.

This paper attempts to provide fresh perspectives to pre-existing literature on how Kurds foster transnational ties towards the region of Kurdistan. We will look into the use of ICT-tools in fostering transnational ties and how the Kurdish youth voice aspirations of return migration, transnational belonging and social mobility. The data for this paper is derived from interviews conducted with twenty-three young adults of Kurdish origin who reside in Finland, with observation of their use of digital media.

The preliminary results indicate that young Kurds consider their level of mobility (both physical and social) relatively high. They also foster strong feelings of belonging towards the Kurdistan Region. Some seriously consider migrating to the Kurdistan Region, whereas several others aim to contribute to the Kurdish cause through diasporic associations and family networks. A strong sense of belonging to Kurdistan is at the core of these aspirations.

Keywords: Kurdish youth, transnationalism, identity



### P34 Sevin Gallo (USA)

Lecturer and PhD candidate studying Middle East History at the University of Akron. She received several fellowships and awards that have facilitated her research and travel throughout the Kurdish regions of Turkey. She presented papers concerning Honor Crimes and Kurdish Identity Politics at the Middle East Studies Association and at The Australian National University conference, "Honour Killing Across Culture and Time" in Canberra.

#### Modernity and Honor Violence: The Case of Turkey and the Kurds

##### Abstract

Despite significant revisions in the Turkish legal system under the Kemalists in the name of 'modernization,' until 2005 Turkey incorporated loopholes in the law for people who kill or otherwise victimize their wives, sisters, and other family members in the name of honor. Now, in the context of European Union candidacy and pressures from domestic and international human rights advocates, the Turkish state and dominant popular culture emphasize the 'Kurdishness' of honor-related violence in Turkey. The effort to identify honor killings with Kurdish 'tradition' allows the dominant culture and state to detract attention away from the occurrence of such crimes, and is an attempt to re-affirm a 'modern' Turkish identity to the international community, as well as maintain internal power dynamics within Turkey itself. By historicizing the methods that the dominant culture in Turkey use to defend their characterization as "modern", my

paper analyzes the shift in the discourse of "Kurdishness" in Turkey from the Kemalist practice of denying Kurdish identity altogether to the present attempt by the Turkish media and the state to affirm Kurdishness in their terms. Kurds have been systematically denied the means of producing their own version of Kurdish identity in the form of popular media. Therefore, this imbalanced discourse goes on in Turkey without a counter-narrative. Further, by analyzing key legal documents, interviews, human rights reports, Kurdish feminist journals, the Turkish popular press and Turkish television programs, I offer a complex historical understanding of honor-related violence that situates the apparent concentration of honor killings in the Kurdish regions or in Kurdish communities in the context of civil war, Kemalist nationalist reform policies, and identity politics. I also highlight the recent work of women's rights organizations operating in Turkey that challenge the dominant discourse on honor violence and Kurdish identity in Turkey.

Keywords: Honor crimes, modernization, Turkey



### P35 Mukkader Baran (Turkey)

PhD student at Atatürk University. She is currently working on her doctorate on Context and Problem Based Learning in Chemistry on the subject of Thermodynamics. MSc in Chemistry Education at Istanbul University.

#### The Self-Esteem and Loneliness of High School Students: A Case from Hakkari

##### Abstract

Hakkari (Colemêrg) stands as Turkey's poorest and politically most instable city. For this reason, I wished to conduct a study on the situation of high school students in Hakkari. The objective of the study was to analyse the students' feelings of loneliness (whether they feel lonely or not) and self-esteem. Three questionnaires were used in conducting this study. The first one was on the demographic situation of the students (economic situation, literacy level of their parents, etc.). The second one was on feelings of loneliness, comprising 20

questions with 4 likert answers. The third one was on self-esteem, comprising 10 questions with 4 likert answers. The study was conducted with a total of 427 students from different departments (sciences, social sciences and professional high schools). Interviews were also done with students to achieve a deeper understanding of the questionnaires' results. The program SPSS 18 and qualitative analysis were used in analysing data. As a result, it was found that hopelessness and self-esteem were linked with the social interactions of the students (their relationship with their parents and their friends), and different results were also obtained according to the gender of the students.

Keywords: Self-esteem, loneliness, Kurdish students, education



### P36 Fereydoon Rahmani (Canada)

PhD, University of Vienna. Kurdish-Canadian scholar who teaches at Salahaddin University both departments of Sociology (graduate programs sociology and anthropology) and Social Work. Has worked as chair of the committee for Scientific Quality Assurance at the Department of Social Work and recently has been acting as department head. Has worked at many international research and architectural institutions in Europe, Canada and Middle East on demography, urban and regional studies, sustainable development and quality of life research.

#### The Kurdish Nation and Its Quality of Life: A Field Analysis within the Kurdish Population 1999-2011

##### Abstract

Quality of life research and social reporting today belong to the most pragmatic research disciplines in social sciences and sociology and are fundamental mechanisms and tools in the much broader context of social indicators systems. This may have been the main reason which led to declaring such scientific capacities more as "social engineering". Today the quality of life research, within its short existence, has developed from a simple, material inspection of a country's living conditions to a combination of multidimensional, post-material and subjective analysis of people's lives. The number of field analyses in the subjective quality of life discipline, especially within

industrialized countries, has firmly increased – while most developing countries are still hesitating in such scientific contribution.

This research analyzes the living conditions and quality of life of the Kurdish population in and outside Kurdistan for the first time in a holistic and globalist view, as well as a sectoral and domain analysis between 1999 and 2011. The research project is based on a few field research projects conducted to assess the level of living and quality of Kurdish people's lives in different areas. At the same time, it compares such parameters with some European and Middle Eastern societies or ethnicities. The article shows all disparities between the quality of life levels within different areas, both genders inside and outside Kurdish regions, as well as the differences in subjective and objective qualities of life. The limitations of such research within sensitive societies would also be discussed in possible future projects of this kind.

Keywords: Quality of life, Kurdish nation, Kurdish immigrants



**P37 Ibrahim Sadiq (UK)**

Lecturer at Koya University and PhD student, Brunel University, West London, where he also received his Master's degree. Has studied Law at Salahaddin University and worked as a lawyer in the court of Erbil and Duhok until 1997. He worked as a journalist and also as a legal adviser at the refugee foundation in Central Gelderland in Holland (2002-2006). He received his legal social officer diploma, 2004. Has published several books.

**Apology as the Pathway to National Reconciliation**

**Abstract**

According to the Iraqi High Tribunal, the previous Iraqi regime has been convicted of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. These crimes took an enormous physical, financial and emotional toll on the Kurdish people. It dismantled the social structure and caused significant suffering and pain to hundreds of thousands within the Kurdish population. All of these crimes need justice and an apology to restore dignity and social harmony to the Kurds.

Denial of the Kurdish genocide is still a burning phenomenon and continues to shape definite antagonistic feelings. Regarding the national reconciliation, the apology could re-establish positive relations between the current Federal Government of Iraq and the Kurdish genocide survivors and relatives of victims. This implies that the need for acknowledging past wrongs and accepting accountability as an expedient, formal and legitimate right of survivors and relatives of victims. Thus, it is worth asking. Why does the Federal Government

of Iraq continue to keep silent? Why does it marginalize apology as an international right of the Kurdish nation and its victims? Why is an apology even necessary?

This paper will address the necessity of an apology and the important consequences of such a process on both survivors and the future of the Kurdish nation. It peruses two main methods to gain its aims. These methods are; the questionnaire form and the study of the previous researches.

The expected results are that the survivors and relatives of victims have been and continue to await an apology from the Federal Government of Iraq, as well as rightful compensation. They lost their property, possessions and loved ones. Therefore, they are still waiting for the historical moment, as they feel that the current Iraqi government has admitted guilt and worked diligently to erase all traces of this crime. Yet, the mere recognition of the Operational al-Anfal as genocide can neither compensate everything and every human being lost, nor can it heal the wounds.



**P38 Maria Six-Hohenbalken (Austria)**

Social anthropologist; researcher at the Austrian Academy of Sciences (Institute of Social Anthropology); lecturer at the University of Vienna and Applied University St. Pölten. Her current projects: Memoryscapes in Kurdish Society, Remembering Crimes Against Humanity (Habilitation project). Hidden Histories. Legacies and contributions of Austro-Hungarian scientists to Kurdish Studies. She has published: *Violence Expressed. An Anthropological Approach*, Surrey: Ashgate 2011, *Kurdische Diasporen, ethno-nationale Netzwerke und transnationale Bewegungen* (i.pr.for 2012) (author), *Jugend zwischen Risiko und Gewalt. Sozialanthropologische Beiträge* (i.pr. 2012) (editor)

**European Travel Accounts as Sources for Comparative Studies in Natural Sciences and Humanities**

**Abstract**

Besides the great European powers, e.g. Great Britain and France with their colonial interest in exploiting regions in the Near and Far East, smaller nation states and Empires had strong scientific and economic interest in establishing contacts and networks in Western Asia. From the mid-nineteenth century onwards, the Austro-Hungarian Empire was very eager to strengthen diplomatic and economic ties with the Ottoman Empire. In the first decades, these endeavours reflected the interest in the development of sciences and humanities and did not reproduce Orientalist worldviews in general.

In the following decades, Orientalist worldviews started to come up within certain politicised scientific networks.

Several kinds of expeditions and research were undertaken, sometimes at the request of the Ottoman Empire (e.g. for topographic-cartographic mapping or mineralogical analyses), sometimes financed by Austro-Hungarian institutions. Several researchers were universal scholars, interested in different scientific fields.

Several documentations of this sort of endeavour exist in the Austrian archives which were not published until today. In the presentation, I will focus upon contributions which may be of interest for comparative analysis in natural sciences today, e.g. Josef Wünsch's meteorological observations and data collection in the 1880's in Kurdistan, Freiherr von Handel-Mazzettis collections of the flora in Kurdish regions during expeditions in 1910 and 1913/14 or limnological collections stored in Vienna since a century.

The presentation should enable contacts and open possibilities for further research and collaboration.

Keywords: Nation based development of Sciences and Humanities, ethodological nationalism





### P39 Newzad Karim (USA)

MSc in Electronic Engineering and MBA in Global Management. He has 30 years experience in High Tech Engineering and 15 years of experience providing executive technical, operational and global strategic leadership. He is a frequent speaker in international conferences, and has published numerous articles related to Kurdish democracy, Kurdish managements and Kurdish strategy in [www.kurdishstrategy.com](http://www.kurdishstrategy.com)

#### In Search of Kurdish Democracy

##### Abstract

An exact copy of a democratic system cannot be implemented among different societies or nations. There are many factors that structure and influence a country's democratic style. What type of a practical democratic system fits the Kurdish society? Can we blindly superimpose Jeffersonian democracy upon the Kurds after it has failed in many other countries? To come up with the right conclusion, we need a detailed understanding of Kurdish social history, cultures, sub-cultures, religions, music, past and present feudal system, and many other aspects of Kurdish society. This paper is a small attempt to find an answer to this query. It highlights the similarities and differences of Kurdish socio-political culture, compared with other nations such as Russia, Iran, India, and China.

The Russians had plentiful land resources. They developed their political system concentrating on controlling people, not the land. In contrast, the Kurds had the opposite culture in which their system was based upon protecting the land more than the people. This paper also deals with the social development of Kurds and Iranians, and what

led the Kurds to lose full control of Iranian terrain. Evidence of human activity can be traced to pre-30,000 BC in China, India and Kurdistan. Kurdistan statehood began in the early 1st millennium BC. Kurdistan experienced prolonged conflicts with neighboring nations which led the Kurds to develop unique social patterns of religious, warrior, merchant/craftsman and peasant classes. India fragmented into various parts that were ruled by numerous kingdoms until the arrival of the British in the 18th century. Kurdistan experienced a fragmentation similar to India. However, the Indian economy grew and became one of the largest economies in the world during its fragmentation era, while Kurdistan's economy plunged during the same period. This was most likely due to Kurdistan having the misfortune of being used as a battleground for wars between the Sunni and Shia Islamic empires. China's successful development of their marine power and commerce during the 15th century ended the commerce activities of many Kurdish cities located on the Silk Road. Kurdish status during last two millenniums did not permit the vast territories to be ruled by a single political power and therefore Kurds never developed a single literary language. The great u-turn for Kurds in the last century is leading us to develop our nation with a single unified language.



### P40 Ayar Ata (UK)

PhD candidate, London South Bank University. He is currently working as refugee integration and welfare advocate in Southwark, London. Participated in the London Campaign (summer 2010), "Strangers into Citizens," to end asylum seekers destitution and contributed to the Mayor of London's refugee and migration policy, including access to law for all undocumented migrants so they have a fair chance to represent themselves. Worked with young and unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children in London.

#### Kurdish Forced Migration and Displacement since 1918 and Formation of the Kurdish Diaspora in the UK

##### Abstract

In my research paper I will cover the following two areas:

1. Explain the historical context of modern nation-state building in the Middle East since 1918, highlighting the complex and systematic processes of socio-economic and political marginalization and sub-ordination of Kurdistan which also resulted in the Kurdish mass forced migration and displacements until the present day. Furthermore, this paper looks into understanding how present and past experiences are influencing the Kurdish Diaspora integration decisions and noting how London is shaping or re-shaping their cultural identity.
2. Critically look at the existing literature on Kurdish diaspora communities in London and discuss the idea of cultural identity and "home" by considering how the Kurds view their own history (the past) and how they relate (at present) within their new home / London. I am interested in the living experience of members of

the Kurdish communities and the perspective of individual refugees as well as the collective and groups often seemingly uniform view about integration and history.

Prior to looking at the literature on Kurdish Diaspora, I will start my paper on Kurdish history and some relevant materials on Kurdish culture and identity. (Bruinessen 1992) This is to provide a context for full discussion about the origin of Kurdish displacement and forced migration. The Kurds in the Middle East have been systematically subjected to marginalization and frequent displacement and forced migration since 1918. This process led to political and cultural oppression and the subsequent suffering, pain and displacements shaped the future of millions of Kurds for generations to come. Consequently; we have seen the emergence of the Kurdish diaspora communities in Europe, Canada and the USA. These are real and relatively new Kurdish communities outside Kurdistan. Emanuelsson (2008) sees these newly emerged communities as a potential force for democratic change and for positive social and economic developments in the region.



### P41 Dihad A. Marf Zamua (Netherlands)

PhD student, Assyriology Department, Leiden University, Netherlands. Professor at Salahaddin University, Erbil in the Archaeology Department. Editor-in-Chief of the *Subartu Journal*.

#### Ancient History and the Culture of Arbela in Light of Archaeological and Historical Evidences

##### Abstract

This research will focus on new archaeological discoveries at Arbela, searching into ancient history, archeology, and the culture of Arbela. By using the original sources as cuneiform texts and classic sources, light will be shown upon the view of ancient Arbela as an important part of Kurdistan history and culture. It is the first time that the Ancient Chronology of Arbela has been collected in a research project. This is my duty as a Kurdish Archaeologist, after participating in several archaeological excavations in Erbil from 2004-2010 and also by studying cuneiform texts about Arbela in Leiden University.

The research includes the following headings:

1. Arbela in Prehistoric: From the Zagros Mountain caves to the plain of Arbela.
2. Arbela, from village to city: Unknown village to settlement, then to town, finally to the city of Urbilum/Arbela, that became one of the most ancient, inhabited cities in the world, from the Sumerian period to the present day.

3. Arbela and the revolt against the Sumerian army: It began with the Subarians and Hurrians (Kurdish ancestors) around 2500 BC. This was the most ancient group that can be called the first Kurdish ancestors/grandfathers. In 2094 B.C. the Sumerian army occupied their land, but the people of Urbilum/Arbela revolted against them.
4. The temple of Ishtar, the Goddess of War was in the citadel: Arbela was a religious center in ancient history and the Temple of the goddess Ishtar was there. As the Goddess of War, her temple was attended by most of the Assyrian kings before battle to pray for victory.
5. Center of the Median rebel leader against the Persian Emperor in 522-521 B.C:

Arbela was the place where the Median rebel leader Tritantaechmes was crucified by the Persian king Darius I the Great in the summer of 521 BCE. This suggests that Arbela retained some of its ancient importance. This is not surprising, because the town commands the road from Babylonia and Assyria into Armenia along the Upper Zab. It was also one of the stations along the Royal road between Sardes in the west and Persepolis.



### P42 Mohammed Reza Setare and A. Seyedzahedi (Iran)

He is currently Associate Professor in the Faculty of Science, Department of Physics and PhD student at the University of Kurdistan, Sanandaj. MSc, Tabriz University, Tabriz. BSc, Sharif University, Tehran.

#### Fermion Particle Production in Dynamic Casimir Effect in a Three Dimensional Box

##### Abstract

In this paper we investigate the problem of fermion creation inside a three dimensional box. We present an appropriate wave function which satisfies the Dirac equation in this geometry with MIT bag model boundary condition. We consider the walls of the box to have dynamics and introduce the time evolution of the quantized field

by expanding it over the instantaneous basis. We explain how we can obtain the average number of particles created. In this regard we find the Bogliubove coefficients. We consider an oscillation and determine the coupling conditions between different modes that can be satisfied depending on the cavity spectrum. Assuming the parametric resonance case, we obtain an expression for the mean number of created fermions in each mode of an oscillation and their dynamical Casimir energy.





### P43 Amjad Alipanah (Iran)

PhD in Applied Mathematics at Amir Kabir University. Undergraduate degree in Applied Mathematics at the University of Kurdistan, 2000. Following this, he was accepted in the entrance exam of Numerical Analysis at the Amir Kabir University, Tehran. Assistant professor of Applied Mathematics at the University of Kurdistan since 2007.

#### Homotopy Perturbation Method for Solving Population Balance Differential Equation

##### Abstract

The perturbation method is applied to solve the population balance

differential equation, which is described by stretched differential equation. To demonstrate the validity of this method, obtained results have been compared with other methods.

Keywords: Population Balance Differential Equation, He's Perturbation Method.



### P44 Abdul Hamdid Hakki (USA)

Cardiologist at the Heart and Vascular Institute of Florida. Undergraduate studies at the American Jesuit Baghdad College, and Medical degree from the University of Baghdad. Residency training at the John Hopkins and University of Maryland Hospitals, and Cardiology Fellowship at Hahnemann University in Philadelphia. Known for the "Hakki Formula"... for the calculation of cardiac valve areas, and recently for the "Hakki Catheter" with his brother, Said Hakky, who obtained FDA approval in February 2011.

#### US Patent Pending Traffic Light

##### Abstract

The system and method for traffic surveillance, control, and traffic related information display uses display units. Each has display element sensors and cameras where the operation is controlled by a processor. Anticipatory sensor systems continuously measure speed and deceleration of approaching vehicles and sends signals to the processor, which in turn analyzes the incoming signals. A rapid sequence camera continuously records audio-video images.

When the rate of deceleration exceeds a predetermined threshold that defines an unequivocal collision, the processor activates a store regime of the audio visual images on-site or transmitted to an off-site location for further actions. The information on the traffic flow condition, which may affect the vehicle travel, is displayed on the display unit. The system provides for the detection of pedestrians about to cross an intersection and controls the traffic light pattern accordingly. The display unit utilizes shapes, motions, and color to provide for easily understandable messages for vehicle occupants and pedestrians.



### P45 Selar Othman Ali (UK)

Doctoral researcher, Southampton Education School, University of Southampton, UK. Master's in Education, University of Nottingham, UK. BA in English language, University of Salahaddin, Erbil. Has been head of Academic Relations (International Office), Manager of Vice-President's Office in the University of Salahaddin, Erbil, Iraqi Kurdistan, Head of Scholarships Department in the Ministry of Higher Education in Kurdistan Region, Iraq. Head of Training Center in the Foundation of Technical Education in Erbil.

#### Quality Assurance and Effectiveness in Kurdistan Higher Education: The Reform Process

##### Abstract

Implementing quality assurance in higher education establishments is the main focus of the reform process currently undertaken by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The reform agenda has involved attempts to improve academic quality and management processes in universities,

technical institutions and colleges. The central challenge for the reform process is to produce change in higher education in a region where administration is described as centralized and bureaucratic. To make these changes, there should be well-designed plans and follow up processes in order to monitor progress and develop responses to obstacles. Lack of skills, resources, political dilemmas, poor motivation, and readiness to face the consequences of change are factors which will determine the success of the reform process. Keywords: Higher education, Kurdistan-Iraq, quality assurance



### P46 Newzad Karim (USA)

MS Electronic Engineering and MBA - Global Management degrees. He has 30 years experience in high tech engineering, and 15 years successful experience providing executive technical, operational and global strategic leadership. Seasoned business executive, results-oriented leader with a strong track record of technical and marketing performances in global dynamic organizations, experience in leading teams and programs to achieve business goals.

#### Kurdish Population Growth

##### Abstract

Projections recently issued by the United Nations suggest that world population by 2050 could reach 8.9 billion, but in alternative scenarios could be as high as 10.6 billion or as low as 7.4 billion. The population of the countries populated with Kurds will reach 310 million by 2060, 106.9 millions in Iran, 98.1 million in Turkey, 68.4 millions in Iraq, and 36.3 millions in Syria by 2060. Worldwide Kurdish population will exceed Turks and Persian populations in the Mideast by year 2020. New strategies need to be developed by Kurds, regional and support

powers to deal with this demographic change and the 'new kid on the block'.

This paper examines each country's Kurdish population growth rates vs. their dominated ethnics' populations. Kurdish population's growth will increase dramatically in Turkey, Iran and Syria, while Arab population growth rate will surpass Kurdish population growth in Iraq. The paper also elaborates upon fact findings of the current population trends and methodology used to extend population trends up to 2020, and discusses consequences of growth patterns in Kurdistan, and how it impacts our democracy, political system, economical and social structure.



### P47 Rahimi Esmaeil, Behmanesh M, Maryam Nikkhah, Saman Hosseinkhani, Iman Sadeghi (Iran)

Rahimi Esmaeil, MSc in Molecular Genetics, Department of Genetics, Faculty of Biology, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran.

#### ATP Sulfurylase from the Hyperthermophilic *G. Kaustophilus*

##### Abstract

ATP sulfurylase (ATPS) is widely distributed in nature and has been found in virtually all types of organisms. Several different physiological roles have been proposed for ATPS in different species, including sulfate assimilation, sulfate reduction and pyrophosphate recycling. Sulfation is a necessary modification of proteins, carbohydrates, and lipids. ATP sulfurylase catalyzes the first step in sulfate assimilation to produce adenosine phosphosulfate (APS) from ATP and sulfate, which is subsequently metabolized to generate all sulfur-containing

biomolecules. ATP sulfurylase has been used for many different biotechnological applications, e.g., Firefly luciferase ATP luminescence assay, bioluminometric detection of ADP at high concentrations of ATP, continuous monitoring of DNA polymerase activity and DNA sequencing. ATP sulfurylase genes have been cloned from several prokaryotes, eukaryotes, plants and animals.

*Geobacillus kaustophilus* is a hyperthermophilic sulfate-reducing bacterium. In this study, we cloned ATP sulfurylase gene from *G. kaustophilus* in a cloning vector then it was subcloned into an expression vector. Results of expressed protein were analyzed on SDS PAGE and ATPS protein detected.



### P48 Hama Biglari (Sweden)

MSc in Computing Science. He has been working as software engineer since 2000. MA student in Musicology at Uppsala University, Sweden. His Master's thesis was on Acoustic-Hysiological Characteristics of Persian Avaz Singing. Has studied voice science and acoustic-physiological analysis of Kurdish and other eastern singing styles at the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), as well as certain musicological aspects of ornamentation in early Western singing styles.

#### Timbral and Melodic Characteristics of Kurdish Singing

##### Abstract

Excerpts from the vividly ornamented and flamboyant variety of the Kurdish singing tradition were studied. Audio signals were recorded from professional male Kurdish singers, singing stylistically typical song excerpts from south Kurdish traditions, as well as scales and isolated melodic embellishments. The fundamental frequency was determined from the electroglottograph signal, which was produced by attaching electrodes to the skin of the singer's throat. Properties of the voice source (the air pulses exiting the vocal folds) and the resonance frequencies enhanced by the instantaneous shape of the vocal tract (the cavities from the glottis to the lips) were measured

from the recorded signals.

In the melodically embellished melodies, the pitch transitions between melody tones were sung via short episodes in which the fundamental frequency quickly jumped up to a peak in order to immediately dive towards the next melody tone. Moreover, for several vowels in the higher parts of the voice range, the singers tuned the first resonance frequency of the vocal tract to the second harmonic (i.e. to the first overtone), and sometimes they also tuned the second resonance frequency to some higher overtones.

These findings are discussed in relation to similar melismatic embellishments in other Asian signing styles, including Persian avaz, and also to resonance strategies in western operatic tradition and Bulgarian women's singing.



### P49 Ayyoub Ahmadzadeh Bokani (Australia)

PhD student, University of New South Wales (UNSW) in Wireless Computer Networks and Mobile Network technologies Undergraduate studies in Software Engineering, University of Mahabad and started Bioinformatics and Computer Science at the (UNSW), Sydney, Australia in 2010. Member of NICTA (National ICT Australia). Champion in Chinese martial arts sport (Wushu) he trained kurkish children, teenagers and youths for more than 13 years. Bokan's TVTO (Technical and Vocational Training Organization) employee for more than 6 years.

#### Developed Computer Networks in Southern Kurdistan Based Upon Implemented Technologies in Developed and Developing Countries

##### Abstract

In this paper we propose an advanced computer network infrastructure and the fundamental process of establishing metropolitan, communicative network topologies which are have been used for decades in developed countries. Nowadays in most of the world's major cities, people have access to governmental or private offices, companies, organizations, banks and many services in the country through their internet connections. The majority of these important services include: Roads Traffic Control (RTC), IPTV, Central Security

System (CSS), Internet Banking, Insurance, etc., These services are lacking in Southern Kurdistan and a considerable effort concordance to the new digital world is required. Developed telecommunications methods and digital TV have important roles in people's lives while most of these new technologies are not available in Kurdistan. Our systematic review on computer networks infrastructures in a developed country (Australia) and some developing countries show that by having the same organized methodology, we can think of providing similar digital environment in Kurdistan. Three different areas including Digital TV, Mobile Networks and Metropolitan Computer Networks have been considered by all the establishment details and requirements in this paper. With our proposed projects, a significant digital revolution in Kurdistan Region is expected in the near future.



**P50 Mosleh (Showan) Rostami/ Sassan Zhian (Iran)**

PhD candidate in Finance, University of Tehran. MSc in Financial Engineering, Amirkabir University of Technology (Tehran Polytechnic). Graduated from Iran University of Science and Technology (IUST) with a degree in Industrial Engineering, Planning and System Analysis. Is currently an investment analyst in Bank e Eghtesad Novin Investment Group. Was Secretary of Kurdish Students' Association and director of *Kurdish Journal of Zagros* in IUST, and a member of the central council of the KAZEWA, Kurdish Institute for Social Researches founded by Kurdish students of Tehran universities.

Sassan Zhian PhD student, Grenoble Ecole de Management(GEM),Grenoble, France. Master in Finance, Shahid Beheshti University of Iran (SBU); BSc in Industrial engineering, Industrial Production and System Analysis, Iran University of Science and Technology(IUST). Has worked in production planning, project management, project financing, capital budgeting, cash flow management, financial analyst and investment consulting especially for infrastructure projects. One of the founders of Kurdish Students' Association and *Kurdish Journal of Zagros* in IUST.

**Application of Public-Private Partnerships to Develop Infrastructures in Kurdistan: Requirements, Challenges and Suggestions**

**Abstract**

The development of infrastructures has a fundamental role in economic and social growth in developing countries. This results in an increasing demand for implementing infrastructure projects that are generally capital intensive. Considering this fact and the budget limitations of governments, it could be useful to engage the private sector in such projects to leverage huge amount of required funds, in addition to using the technical and managerial capacity, creativity and innovation of the private sector. For this purpose, Public-Private Partnership (PPP) as a contractual structure and efficient model to regulate such collaboration. This has become a popular way to help governments in various projects such as energy, transportation, communication, municipality, tourism, social and health. In different forms of PPP, the private sector, in coordination with public agencies, may contribute to projects and delivering services/goods in ranging

from planning, financing, designing to building and operating projects. In practice, besides having many advantages, applying PPP models may encounter many challenges and risks. Successful deployment of these models depends on accurately identifying and managing them. Kurdistan, neglected by the Iraqi central regimes for decades despite the high potential capacity to be a developed region in the Middle-East, suffers from its relatively undeveloped infrastructures. Indeed, the lack of modern infrastructures is among the major challenges to Kurdistan's economic development. In recent years, the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has paid special attention to the development of infrastructures and preparation of prerequisites for the reconstruction of Kurdistan.; Although, as the result of the KRG's admirable attempts, significant progress has been made in Kurdistan, many projects are still needed to accelerate economic growth-rate and achieve sustainable development goals. Considering the huge amounts of money needed for achieving these goals and the KRG's budget limitations, there is a compelling necessity for the participation of local and international private companies.



**P51 Galina Jalal (Denmark)**

BSc in Computer Science, Technical University of Baghdad. Bachelor degree in Arabic followed in 1997 by an MSc degree in Computer Science and Operational Research (OR), both from Copenhagen University. She qualified to participate in the 1994 EURO Summer Institute on Combinatorial Optimization, held in Jouy-en-Josas, France. Worked in Danish software companies (1997-2002). She is the founder and daily manager of Galina Interpretation Service offering translation to/from Arabic, Kurdish, and Russian in Denmark and abroad. She is still active as a researcher within Computer Science (CS) and Operational Research (OR). Her field of specialization within OR is Locational Decisions

**OR: A Tool for the Further Development of Kurdistan**

**Abstract**

Operational Research (OR) is the science of decision making. From its military origins on the eve of WWII, OR has over the past seven decades matured to a discipline that is recognized worldwide for its contributions to managerial planning and complex operations on all levels within both private companies and public institutions. My field of specialization within OR is locational decisions. The central notion is

optimal choice within a spatial context where "optimal" in practice can be viewed as the best possible use of scarce resources. Examples of such choices include the location of factories, warehouses, hospitals, schools, and machines and departments within a production facility, as well as the design of electronic, water, energy, transportation and information networks. It is my considered opinion that such decision problems are crucial to the further development of Kurdistan and that OR has a lot to offer in this respect.

# Perspectives on Kurdistan's Economy and Society in Transition

Almas Heshmati, Alan Dilani, Serwan Baban  
Editors

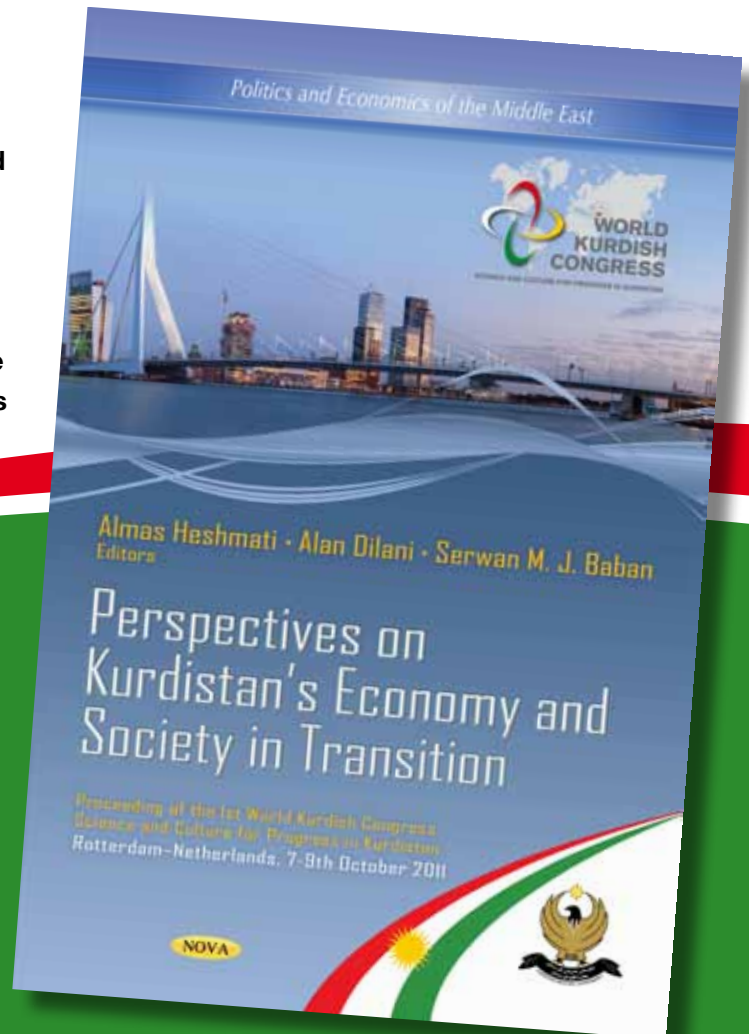
**The First World Kurdish Congress was held on October 2011 at Rotterdam with the theme of researching science and culture towards increased progress in Kurdistan. The papers presented focused on various important aspects of health, education, economy, culture and political science in Kurdistan. The objective was to establish a network of academicians to develop and exchange knowledge on how to further enhance the progress within the Kurdish society.**

This volume is a collection of 20 studies presented at the Congress. The presentation topics are diverse, covering several areas pertinent to the current Kurdish situation. The studies are divided into eight areas including: human rights and freedom; greater Kurdistan, education and nation building; diaspora; politics and international relations; corruption; health care and trauma; and economy, business and science and technology. The book published by NOVA Science publisher in USA and marketed globally, it will

be available at major libraries around the world. The aim is on an annual basis

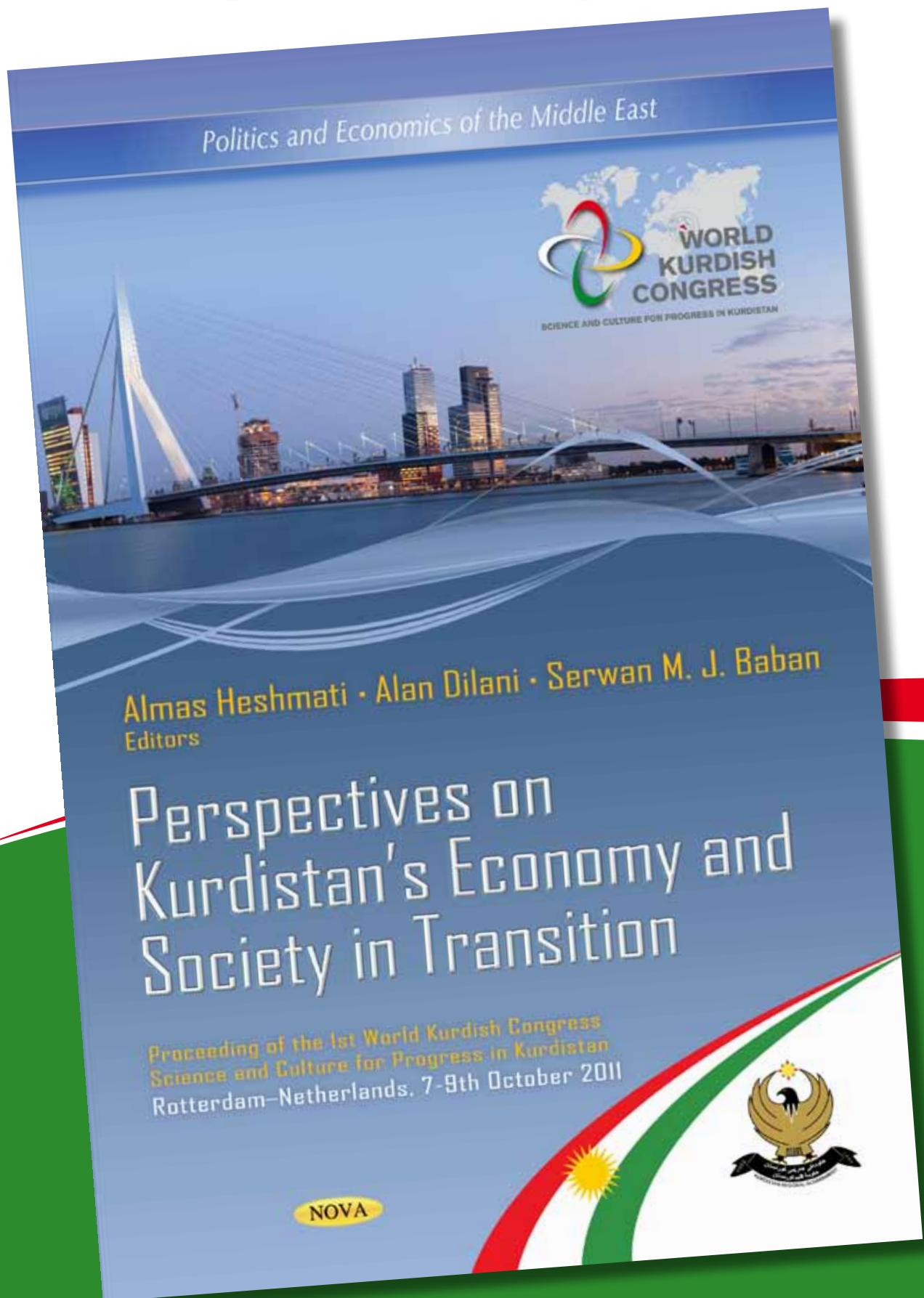
to publish selected papers presented at each congress in collected volume(s). The editors are expecting this publication series to strengthen WKC in its objective to establish a strong network of researchers, decision makers, social planners and business community to achieve our goals in the process of transition of the Kurdish Society.

The Editors provide a compilation of recommendations emerged from the Congress to the KRG- Kurdistan Regional Government. These include: promotion of health; establishment of a network of academics in the diaspora to gain from intellectual capital outside Kurdistan; modernization of the higher education and other institutions to increase quality and capacity of human capital to play a direct role in the process of nation-building and wealth creation; promotion of good governance, accountability and transparency; promotion of research on important issues such as cross-border social, political and economic integration of Kurdistan; supporting comprehensive research on major crimes against the Kurdish nation so they are internationally recognized; preparing different laws, rules and regulations needed to enhance economic development; and finally establishment of a national legal team composed of international and national experts to assist the Regional Government in relation with for the Kurds vital issues such as genocide, war crimes, displacement, human rights and the rights to self-determination.



**The book can be ordered at Nova Science Publisher, USA  
starting November 2012 [www.novapublishers.com](http://www.novapublishers.com)**

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Politics and Economics of the Middle East



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Editors

## Perspectives on Kurdistan's Economy and Society in Transition

Proceeding of the 1st World Kurdish Congress  
Science and Culture for Progress in Kurdistan  
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