

Iraq



The flag of Iraq is a symbol for the country and is composed of three colors. These colors are red, white and black. Inside the white part of the flag it says, "Allahu Akbar." This means God is good.



Iraq is a Muslim nation. Its main languages are Arabic and Kurdish. Some of the main holidays are Newroz, the Iraqi Army Day, and the International Workers' holiday. Another interesting fact is that in Iraq, weekends are Friday and Saturday, as compared to the Western version of Saturday and Sunday.

Another big part of the Iraqi culture is art and literature. One of the most famous Arab poets from Iraq was named Abu Al Tayeb Al Mutanabbi of the Abbasid Period whose works include "As Though She Were Sleeping," and "Judgment Day". Famous artists from Iraq include Ismail Fatah Al Turk, Khalid Al Rahal, Mohammed Ghani Hikmat and Faeq Hassan.



The main sport in Iraq is soccer. Their national league is the Iraqi Premier League. The last winner was Al Shorta, in the 2018-2019 season, after two seasons of lockouts.

Iraqi Food

- Tepsi baytinijan
- Dolma
- Masgouf
- Quzi

❖ Dishes going clockwise



The Current Prime Minister of Iraq is Mustafa Al Kadhimi, and he took office in May 2020. Kadhimi was born in 1967 and before his role as the prime minister of Iraq, he was a journalist as well as an activist for human rights abuse for Saddam Hussien. In 2016, he became the head of the country's intelligence Services. Kadhimi was also getting relatively high marks from the public as he was getting elected. One thing that Kadhimi doesn't have, though, is his own militia, and he also does not belong to a specific political party which some might say could make him vulnerable.

Starting in October of 2016, many protests arose regarding condemning an authoritarian government, corruption, poor public services, and perceived sectarian policies of the prior prime minister, Adel Abdul-Mahdi. Another major issue is the Covid-19 Pandemic. During this pandemic, even with given lockdown procedures, Iraq saw a spike in late June which increased unemployment to 25%. Iraq continues to rank as one of the most corrupt countries and continues to lack electricity, clean water and many more essential needs. These things are essential to all people and having these things limited is simply not sustainable. Though there are a multitude of issues in the government in Iraq, there is still hope that in the future, Iraq's government will continue to improve in different areas.

Wildlife in Iraq



This is the dormouse. It is found in the continents of Europe, Africa and Asia. This mouse was considered a delicacy for wealthier people in many ancient cultures and is also considered to be an exotic pet, but it is quite difficult to get them from pet trade.



This next creature is an earwig. These are found in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, Oceania and South America. The Earwig got its name from people being afraid of them crawling in their ears and laying eggs. The earwig is also nocturnal which means it only comes out at night. During the night it hunts for food like flowers, fruits and leaves.



This is a jerboa. A jerboa is found in Africa and Asia so its locational placement is quite limited. Jerboas don't actually drink water; they get their hydration by eating plants and insects. This fact is probably extremely helpful considering that it lives in the desert. You may have also noticed that the jerboa looks like a tiny kangaroo. Like a kangaroo, it has a long tail which can stretch over two times the jerboa's body.

Some Iraqi History: The Siege of Baghdad

- It starts in the year 1219 when Mongols led by Genghis Khan make their way towards the middle east slaughtering villages, cities, and overtaking capitals. By the year 1258, he made his way to the knowledge powerhouse and capital of Iraq, Baghdad, and killed the last Abbasid caliph (Role to succeed Muhammad) and slaughtered every scholar, poet, and artist in Baghdad and made a pyramid of skulls outside the city to assert his dominance over the city.



After Genghis

- A separatist group known as The Jalayirids now possessed power over Iraq briefly before being taken over by Tamerlane (Mongol general being prince of Samarkand). In the process, he completely destroyed Islamic art and culture in Iraq. In result, the country was in extreme turmoil such as economic drought and political anarchy. After the Baghdad house of wisdom was destroyed, many of the country's trade and resources were being cut off.





After Mongols

- After the Mongols had dissolved, the country split up into different tribes and factions staying like this until the 1900s while being under the Ottoman Turks. Later, efforts were put in place to take control of Baghdad by Britain in WW1 but had been annihilated by the ottoman. Britain was later granted rule of Iraq and placed it under the rule of the Hashemite Monarchy. Iraq was given independence by the Hashemites. Iraq had a similar government to Britain at the time leading to many Anti-British revolts later resulting in Britain's intervention during WW2. With many coups against Axis countries, the Iraqi government confirmed the siding with Axis countries and once again gained the protection and control Britain.