

PRESS RELEASE



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Release: Immediately

IRAQ SOLICITS CLAIMS FOR LOST PROPERTIES

Justice for Jews from Arab Countries (JJAC), a worldwide coalition of major Jewish organizations, congratulated the Iraqi people and **The Republic of Iraq Ministerial Council** for the establishment of the **Iraq Property Claims Commission (IPCC)** whose “ process is open to all persons, or their heirs, who have been wrongfully deprived of real property.”

"It appears that the stage has been set for a new system of justice and the rule of law" stated S. Daniel Abraham, Founding Chairman of *Justice for Jews from Arab Countries*. "We hope that this signals the beginning of a process to rectify historical injustices and discriminatory measures perpetrated by previous Iraqi regimes."

The **IPCC** which operates in accordance to the legal provisions published in the Iraqi Official Gazette (no. 39850), is soliciting claims “by people who lost or will lose real property or an interest in real property between March 18, 2003 and June 30, 2005 as a result of their ethnicity, religion, or sect; or for purposes of ethnic cleansing, or due to the return of individuals who had been previously dispossessed of their property as a result of the former government’s policy of property confiscation.”

While this announcement is a welcome development for Iraqis of all faiths and origins, it presents some difficulties for those who may wish to file claims - particularly for Jews who fled Iraq.

“We just received this, as did many Iraqi expatriates worldwide” said Maurice Shohet, , Immediate Past President of Congregation Bene Naharayim – Iraqi American Jewish Community. “Unfortunately, for members of our community, the above will be very difficult to address due to the limited time (until June 30, 2005) and the location for submission of claims (Baghdad or other cities in Iraq).”

In asserting the rights of Jews from Iraq, Stanley A. Urman, Executive Director of *Justice for Jews from Arab Countries* stated: “While we are encouraged by this development, redress for the mass violations of human rights must apply equally to all Iraqis; irrespective of when these offenses took place; irrespective of which Iraqi regime was in power; and for all those displaced from Iraq, wherever they may now reside.

Release by The Republic of Iraq Ministerial Council

In the Name of God

The Republic of Iraq Ministerial Council

Dear Sister/Brother, Fellow Citizens,

Following the promulgation of the IPCC law, which governs the consideration and resolution of real property claims, the IPCC shall receive such claims in accordance to the legal provisions published in the Iraqi Official Gazette no. (39850) of July 2004.

Dear Sister/Brother, Fellow Citizens,

The IPCC process is open to all persons, or their heirs, who have been wrongfully deprived of real property (for example, land, house or an orchard) or an interest in real property (for example, the right to farm the land) because of actions taken by the former governments from July 17, 1968 to April 9, 2003. This process also covers many actions carried out by some officials of the previous governments.

Claims may also be made by people who lost or will lose real property or an interest in real property between March 18, 2003 and June 30, 2005 as a result of their ethnicity, religion, or sect; or for purposes of ethnic cleansing, or due to the return of individuals who had been previously dispossessed of their property as a result of the former government's policy of property confiscation. - If you think that you have a claim under the circumstances described above, contact or visit the IPCC Bureau in the Governorate where you live for further information or to file a claim.

Justice is the Essence of Rule of Law Dear Sister/Brother, Fellow Citizens, - The Iraqi Property Claims Commission (IPCC) has fixed June 30, 2005 as the deadline for claims to be filed. Please contact your local IPCC office or the IPCC Headquarters in Baghdad to learn whether the deadline has been extended. - The recourse to the IPCC for filing a claim and its resolution does not require any payment from you. This service is given free of charge by the Iraqi Government under the motto: "Justice is the essence of rule of law". - If the property you are currently living in is being claimed by someone else, the IPCC law clarifies your rights and requires you to file a response to the claim in order to protect those rights. If possible, the IPCC will contact persons who may have an interest in a real property that is the subject of a claim and give them assistance in responding to the claim. - The IPCC will resolve all claims fairly, taking into account the IPCC Law and all parties' arguments and evidence.

For further information, please contact IPPC Media Head Office:

Mohammed Jamil Abid, Information Department Manager

Iraq Property Claims Commission.

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The IPCC announces the reception of claims in accordance to the provisions of the law published in the Iraqi Official Gazette in July 2004 through its following bureaus in Iraq. You may also receive further information, assistance in filing a claim or a response at the IPCC bureaus.

1) Baghdad Governorate:

a. IPCC Headquarters: Baghdad-Al Rusafa- Area No. (109), Building No. (58), Al Jumhoriya Str. Al Khulani Circle (Office of Real Property Registration)

b. Appeal Office: Baghdad-Al Karkh-Al Rabie Str.- Hay Al A del intersection, Area No. (643) Building No. (199) (Office of Al Karkh Executive Department).

c) Al Karkh Offices (3):

c.1. Baghdad-Al Karkh-Al Rabie, Str.- Hay Al A.del intersection, Area No. (643) Building No. (199) (Office of Al Karkh Executive Department).

c.2. Baghdad-Al Karkh-Al Rabi,? Str.- Hay Al A.del intersection, Area No. (643) Building No. (199) (Office of Al Karkh Executive Department). c.3. Baghdad-Al Karkh-Al Rabie Str.- Hay Al A?del intersection, Area No. (643) Building No. (199) (Office of Al Karkh Executive Department).

d) Al Rusafa Offices:

d.1&2 (two offices): Baghdad-Al Rusafa, Al Karada, Opposite to the National Theater, next to Qasar Al Shawaq Hotel, Area No. (903), Zuqaq No. (43) Building No. (15).

d.3. Baghdad-Al Rusafa-Al Waziriya-Str. No. (33). Abi Talib Str. Opposite to Scientific Compound, Area No. (301), Building No. (15).

2) Dohuk Governorate: Dohuk Office, Dohuk Center, Malata Al Nassarah, Main Str. Opposite to Dohuk Canning Factory

3) Nainawah Governorate:

a. Nainawah Office 1: Mosul City, Al Faysalia, Next to Administrative Corruption Office.

b. Nainawah Office 2: Mosul City: Appeal Court Building.

4) Salah Al Din Governorate:

a. Tikrit office: Real State Registry Directorate behind the Governorate building, Ground floor.

b. Touzkhourmatu Office: Touzkhourmatu, Behind the Primary Court, Next to Touzkhourmatu Police Station.

c. Bellad Office: A Hussain Area, Al Qaim Maqamiya Str. Area No. 104) Str.No. (11) Building No. (5).

5) Al Anbar Governorate:

Main Str. The Al Anbar Court of Appeal building, Next to Civil Defense Building.

6) Babil Governorate: Babil Office: Al Hilla, Al Khosrawiya Area, Next to Human Rights Association, Area No. (102) Zuqaq No. (5).

7) Karbala Governorate: Kerbala Office, Building No. (276) 54 Abbasiya Building near the Governorate Building.

8) Najaf Governorate: AL Najaf Office, Najjaf Center, Justice House.

9) Al Muthanna Governorate: Al Muthana Office: Al Samawa city: Al Haydariya, Al Muthana Appeal Court. 2

10) Thi Qar Governorate: Thi Qar Office:

(Al Nassiriya city): Local Administration Building, next to Female Teachers Preparatory Institute, Area No. (101), Zuqaq No. (8).

11) Erbil Governorate : Erbil Office: Erbil, 30 Km Str. Behind Mediya School for Girls.

12) Sulaymania Governorate: Sulaymania Office, Al Muhandissin Area, Ararat str. Building No.(31) near Scientific Research Compound.

13) Al Tamim Governorate (Kirkuk): a. Kirkuk Office: Al Mas, Building No. (133/51) near the Emergency Police Center b. Taza Office: Taza District, Al Shuhada Area, Al Ulya Neighborhood, 103 Str. 11, close to Taza Police Station. a. Daquq Office: Kirkuk Near Daquq Police Station c. Dubis Office: Kirkuk, Qoran Str. Red Crescent Building, close to the Local Council

14) Diyala Governorate: a. Ba?quba Office: City Center, Next to Diyala Agriculture Department. b. Khanaqeen Office: Khanaqeen, Al Talia Area, close to Khanaqeen city Directorate, Zuqaq no. 1, Building No. 123.

15) Wassit Governorate : Wassit Office, Al Kut city, Al Hurra Str. Close to Al Kut Education Department.

16) Missan Governorate: Missan Office:

(Al Umara): Awasha Area, Al Kurnish Str. Building No. (101/537) Qadiriya, next to Environment Department and Al Majarawi Mosque.

17) Qadissiya Governorate:

A Qadissiya Office: Al Diwaniya city Center, Public Notary Building, 2nd floor.

18) Basrah Governorate:

Behind the former Governorate building, the Basra Court of Appeal building

Dear Sister/Brother, Fellow Citizens, We are very pleased to inform you that the judicial committees of the IPCC serving in Baghdad and the Governorates have started to return the real properties confiscated by the former regime in accordance with the law.

Iraq Property Claims Commission