

CORI

Country of origin research and information

CORI Research Analysis

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Issues: COI Compilation covering incidents of violence from March 2013 to Present in Diyala, Anbar, and Babylon, including the locations within these Governorates in which there have been incidents of bombings and the demographic makeup (religious makeup) of these areas.

CORI research analyses are prepared on the basis of publicly available information studies and commentaries and produced within a specified time frame. All sources are cited and fully referenced. Every effort has been taken to ensure accuracy and comprehensive coverage of the research issue however as Country of Origin Information (COI) is reliant on publicly available documentation there may be instances where the required information is not available. The analyses are not and do not purport to be either exhaustive with regard to conditions in the country surveyed or conclusive as to the merits of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read the full text of each document referred to using the URL provided in the footnote.

Diyala

In September 2013 *Reuters* described Diyala as ethnically mixed.¹ In September 2013 the *UN Joint Analysis and Policy Unit* reported that the Diyala population is composed of Kurds, Turkmen and Arabs,

"Diyala has a diverse ethnic composition of Kurds, Turkmen and Arabs. There are unresolved issues with the Kurdistan Regional Government as to who should administer parts of Khanaqin and Kifri districts and Mandali sub-district in the north-east of Baladrooz district."²

In July 2011 *US Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction* reported on ethnosectarian groups in Diyala (based on 2009 data), giving the following demographic

¹ Reuters, Bombs target Iraq Shi'ites, Sunnis, killing 16, 10 September 2013, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/09/10/uk-iraq-violence-idUKBRE9890UC20130910>, accessed 24 September 2013

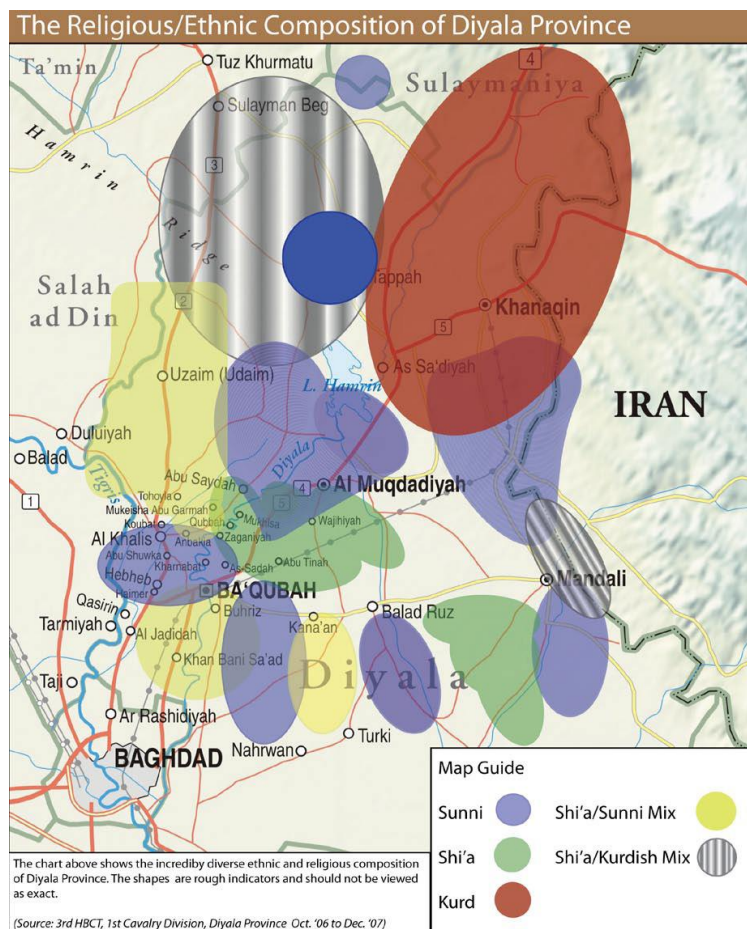
² UN Joint Analysis and Policy Unit, Diyala Governorate Profile, September 2013, <http://www.japuiraq.org/gp/print/GP-Diyala.asp>, accessed 24 September 2013

figures; Sunni 55%; Shia 25%; Kurds 10% and other including Turkmen, Christians and Yazidis 10%.³

In July 2011 the *US Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction* reported that some tribes encompass both Shia and Sunni branches,

"majority of Diyala's residents are Sunni Arabs, but []they share the province with several different groups. Intertwined amidst this ethnic mosaic is an even more complex web of tribes. According to the U.S. military, in 2007 there were at least 25 major tribes and almost 100 sub-tribes in Diyala, some of which encompassed both Sunni and Shia branches."⁴

In 2009 the *Institute for Understanding War* published a US military map depicting the ethno-religious composition of Diyala Province, based on data from 2006-2007.⁵



Kanaan

In April 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that on 12 April a roadside bomb exploded as worshippers left Friday prayers at the Omar bin Abdul Aziz mosque in Kanaan.⁶

³ The Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, July 2011, http://www.sigir.mil/files/quarterlyreports/July2011/Diyala_-_July_2011.pdf, accessed 25 September 2013

⁴ The Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, July 2011, http://www.sigir.mil/files/quarterlyreports/July2011/Diyala_-_July_2011.pdf, accessed 25 September 2013

⁵ The Institute for Understanding War, The religious/ethnic composition of Diyala Province, 9 December 2009, <http://www.understandingwar.org/map/religiousethnic-composition-diyala-province>, accessed 25 September 2013

⁶ Al-Shorfa, Bombs hit Iraqi mosques, killing 11, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/04/13/newsbrief-04, accessed 20 September 2013

On 21 May 2013 *Reuters* reported that at least 8 people were killed in Diyala in bombs and shootings and that 3 were killed by two roadside bombs in Kanaan.⁷

Muqadadiya

On 23 April 2013 *Reuters* reported that at least 10 worshippers were killed by mortar rounds aimed at a Sunni mosque in Muqadadiya.⁸

Baqubah

In May 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 2 soldiers were killed and 1 injured by an IED targeting an army convoy in a town north of Baqubah on 9 May 2013.⁹

In May 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 42 were killed and 53 injured by two roadside bombs near a mosque in Baqubah on 17 May 2013.¹⁰

In June 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 31 were killed and 22 injured by an IED at a cafe in Baqubah.¹¹

In July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 35 were killed and 44 injured in a suicide attack targeting a funeral service and cafe in Baqubah on 1 July 2013.¹²

In July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 6 were killed and 26 injured by an IED at the funeral of a Sahwa member in western Baqubah on 2 July 2013.¹³

In July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 4 people were killed and 16 wounded by an IED in a cafe in al-Mualemeen in central Baqubah on 30 July.¹⁴

On 10 September 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 3 people were killed and 6 wounded by a car bombs at a sheep market in al-Wihda in north-eastern Baqubah and a 5 were killed and 9 injured by a car bomb at a restaurant in al-Khalis district.¹⁵

On 10 September 2013 *Reuters* reported that 5 were killed by a car bomb targeting Shi'ite Muslims in a marketplace in the village of Anbakiya,

"It was not immediately clear who was behind the attack, but Sunni Islamist groups including al Qaeda, which view Shi'ites as non-believers, have been regaining momentum in Iraq, galvanised by civil war in neighbouring Syria."¹⁶

⁷ Reuters, Attacks in Iraq kill over 40, sectarian tensions high, 21 May 2013, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/05/21/us-iraq-violence-bomb-idUKBRE94K12R20130521>, accessed 24 September 2013

⁸ Reuters, Ten killed by mortar attack on Iraqi Sunni mosque - police, 23 April 2013, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/04/23/uk-iraq-violence-attack-idUKBRE93M14S20130423>, accessed 24 September 2013

⁹ Al-Shorfa, Two Iraqi soldiers killed in Diyala blast, 9 May 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/05/09/newsbrief-04, accessed 20 September 2013

¹⁰ Al-Shorfa, Iraq explosions claim 51 lives, 17 May 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/05/17/newsbrief-02, accessed 20 September 2013

¹¹ Al-Shorfa, Blasts in Baghdad and Baqubah kill 40, 28 June 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/28/newsbrief-04, accessed 20 September 2013

¹² Al-Shorfa, Twin suicide bombings hit Baqubah, 2 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/02/newsbrief-07, accessed 20 September 2013

¹³ Al-Shorfa, Spate of attacks kills 54 across Iraq, 3 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/03/newsbrief-03, accessed 20 September 2013

¹⁴ Al-Shorfa, Baghdad, Diyala blasts kill 14, 31 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/31/newsbrief-03, accessed 20 September 2013

¹⁵ Al-Shorfa, Double Diyala car bombings kill 8, 10 September 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/09/10/newsbrief-10, accessed 20 September 2013

¹⁶ Reuters, Bombs target Iraq Shi'ites, Sunnis, killing 16, 10 September 2013, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/09/10/uk-iraq-violence-idUKBRE9890UC20130910>, accessed 24 September 2013

On 10 September 2013 *Xinhuanet* reported that 12 people were killed and 27 injured in bomb attacks near Baquba, Bawiyah and al-Salam,

"In one attack, five people were killed and 13 wounded when a car bomb detonated near a coffee shop in a village near the provincial capital city of Baquba, some 65 km northeast of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, the source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In a separate incident, three people were killed and five wounded in a roadside bomb explosion near their car in Baquba's eastern suburb of Bawiyah, the source said.

Meanwhile, a roadside bomb went off at a marketplace in the village of al-Salam, some 30 km northeast of Baquba, killing four people and wounding nine others, the source added."¹⁷

On 14 September 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 32 worshippers were killed and at least 34 injured by a bomb blast at al-Salam Mosque in central Baqubah.¹⁸

Hibhib

In May 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 9 were killed and 15 wounded by an IED at a cafe in Hibhib on 29 May 2013.¹⁹

Jdeidet al-Shatt

In June 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 15 were killed and 30 injured by two blasts at a market in Jdeidet al-Shatt.²⁰

Al-Abara

In June 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that six footballers were killed and 11 others were injured by an IED which exploded on a football pitch in al-Abara. on 25 June 2013²¹

Al-Meqdadiya

In June 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 5 were killed and 17 injured by two IEDs targeting a football stadium during a children's football match in Ballour, al-Meqdadiya.²²

In July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 12 were killed and 17 injured by a suicide bomb at a funeral service in al-Meqdadiya on 11 July 2013.²³

In July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 9 were killed and 6 were injured by two IEDs near a store in al-Meqdadiya on 25 July 2013.²⁴

¹⁷ Xinhuanet, 12 killed in bomb attacks in Iraq's Diyala, http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-09/10/c_132708936.htm, accessed 20 September 2013

¹⁸ Al-Shorfa, Diyala mourns dozens killed in mosque bombings, 14 September 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/09/14/newsbrief-05, accessed 20 September 2013

¹⁹ Al-Shorfa, Iraqi cafe blast kills 9 in Diyala, 29 May 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/05/29/newsbrief-08, accessed 20 September 2013

²⁰ Al-Shorfa, Monday Iraq bombings kill at least 63, 11 June 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/11/newsbrief-08, accessed 20 September 2013

²¹ Al-Shorfa, Deadly blasts hit Baghdad, Diyala, 26 June 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/26/newsbrief-07, accessed 20 September 2013

²² Al-Shorfa, Twin attack targets Diyala football stadium, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/20/newsbrief-05, 20 June 2013, accessed 20 September 2013

²³ Al-Shorfa, Scores killed in 10 separate attacks across Iraq, 12 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/12/newsbrief-07, accessed 20 September 2013

Al-Wajhiya

In July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 3 were killed and 3 wounded by a bomb near a crowd of people swimming in a river in al-Wajhiya on 17 July 2013.²⁵

On 19 July 2013 the *BBC* reported that 20 were killed and 40 wounded by a suicide bomb set off at the Abu Bakr al-Sadiq Mosque (Sunni) in the town of Wajhiya.²⁶

On 19 July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 21 were killed and 54 injured by an IED inside a mosque in Al-Wajhiya.²⁷

Al-Katoun

On 20 July *Al-Shorfa* reported that a Sahwa leader and two of his aides were killed in al-Katoun by suspected al-Qaeda gunmen.²⁸

Jalawla

On 8 September 2013 *Jane's* security organisation reported that two police officers were killed and eight others injured when a suicide bomb was detonated at the city hall building in the Jalawla district of Diyala province.²⁹

Hwaish

On 10 September 2013 *Reuters* reported that 3 were killed by a car bomb targeted at a Shi'ite tribal leader in Diyala and that another bomb in Hwaish village killed 3.³⁰

Yusufiyah and Latifiyah

On 10 September 2013 *Al Jazeera* reported that 6 people were killed as they performed the ritual cleansing of a Sunni Arab man for his funeral in the town of Yusufiyah.³¹ On 10 September 2013 *Al Jazeera* reported that 2 people were killed and 7 others injured by roadside bomb near a cafe in Latifiyah,

"Yusufiyah and Latifiyah lie within a confessionally mixed region south of Baghdad known as the Triangle of Death for the deadly violence in the area at the peak of Iraq's sectarian war.

Elsewhere, three separate car bombs near Baquba, capital of Diyala, left eight people dead and dozens wounded, security and medical officials said.

No one claimed immediate responsibility for the attacks. But coordinated car bombings and attacks on civilians and security forces are a favourite tactic of the Iraqi branch of al-Qaeda.

²⁴ Al-Shorfa, At least 14 Iraqis killed in blasts across Iraq, 26 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/26/newsbrief-07, accessed 20 September 2013

²⁵ Al-Shorfa, Three children killed in Diyala blast, 17 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/17/newsbrief-06, accessed 20 September 2013

²⁶ BBC, Iraq violence: Diyala mosque bomb attack 'kills 20,' <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-23378405>, accessed 20 September 2013

²⁷ Al-Shorfa, Iraq mosque blasts kill 24, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/19/newsbrief-02, accessed 20 September 2013

²⁸ Al-Shorfa, Sahwa leader, 2 aides killed in Diyala, 20 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/20/newsbrief-07, accessed 20 September 2013

²⁹ Jane's, IHS Jane's 360, Terrorism and Insurgency, Suicide attack kills to police officers in Iraq's Diyala, <http://www.janes.com/article/26803/suicide-attack-kills-two-police-officers-in-iraq-s-diyala>, accessed 20 September 2013

³⁰ Reuters, Bombs target Iraq Shi'ites, Sunnis, killing 16, 10 September 2013, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/09/10/uk-iraq-violence-idUKBRE9890UC20130910>, accessed 24 September 2013

³¹ Al Jazeera, Spate of attacks hit central Iraq, 10 September 2013, <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/09/201391014241703836.html>, accessed 20 September 2013

It typically does not lay claim to attacks for several days, if at all."³²

Anbar

In June 2013 the *Institute for the Study of War* described Anbar as "predominantly Sunni."³³ In 2011 the *Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction* reported that Anbar was predominantly Arab Sunni.³⁴

In 2007 *IOM* reported that the population of Anbar was 100% Sunni Arab,

"Anbar is Iraq's largest and most resource-poor governorate. It is located to the west of Baghdad and stretches from the capital to Jordan and Syria. The governorate forms part of the Sunni Triangle and its population is almost entirely Sunni Arab."³⁵

In May 2013 *Reuters* reported that Sunni tribes who worked with the US and Iraqi government against al-Qaeda are targeted by Sunni militants,

"When Sunni-Shi'ite bloodshed was at its height in 2006-07, Anbar was in the grip of al Qaeda's Iraqi wing, which has regained strength in recent months.

In 2007, Anbar's Sunni tribes banded together with U.S. troops and helped subdue al Qaeda. Known as the "Sahwa" or Awakening militia, they are now on the government payroll and are often targeted by Sunni militants as punishment for co-operating with the Shi'ite-led government."³⁶

On 20 May 2013 *AFP* reported that 24 policemen were killed during a hostage rescue and assaults by gunmen on two police stations in Anbar.³⁷

On 20 May 2013 *Reuters* reported that the bodies of 14 people who were kidnapped were found in the desert in Anbar with bullet wounds to the head and chest.³⁸

Fallujah

In March 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that unknown gunmen killed a local election candidate outside his house in Fallujah on 21 March 2013.³⁹

On 6 June 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 3 police officers were killed and 1 was injured by an IED targeting a police patrol in al-Andalus neighbourhood, in central Fallujah.⁴⁰

³² Al Jazeera, Spate of attacks hit central Iraq, 10 September 2013, <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/09/201391014241703836.html>, accessed 20 September 2013

³³ Institute for the Study of War, 2013 Iraq Update #25: The Ninewa and Anbar elections and the future of Iraq's Sunni Leadership, 22 June 2013, <http://iswiraq.blogspot.co.uk/2013/06/2013-iraq-update-25-ninewa-and-anbar.html>, accessed 25 September 2013

³⁴ The Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, Focus on Anbar, April 2011, http://www.sigir.mil/files/quarterlyreports/April2011/Anbar_-_April_2011.pdf, accessed 25 September 2013

³⁵ International Organisation for Migration, Anbar, Baghdad and Diyala, December 2007, [http://www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004CE90B/%28httpDocuments%29/05935DD6550C2C00C12573AD00394704/\\$file/Governorate+Profiles+-+Anbar+Baghdad+Diyala.pdf](http://www.internal-displacement.org/8025708F004CE90B/%28httpDocuments%29/05935DD6550C2C00C12573AD00394704/$file/Governorate+Profiles+-+Anbar+Baghdad+Diyala.pdf), accessed 25 September 2013

³⁶ Reuters, Bomb attacks kill more than 70 Shi'ites across Iraq, 20 May 2013, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/05/20/us-iraq-violence-idUKBRE94I0DU20130520>, accessed 24 September 2013

³⁷ AFP, Car bombs kill 12 in Iraq capital and south, 20 May 2013, <http://www.afp.com/en/node/943184>, accessed 24 September 2013

³⁸ Reuters, Bomb attacks kill more than 70 Shi'ites across Iraq, 20 May 2013, <http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/05/20/us-iraq-violence-idUKBRE94I0DU20130520>, accessed 24 September 2013

³⁹ Al-Shorfa, Election candidate killed in Anbar, 21 March 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/03/21/newsbrief-04, accessed 23 September 2013

On 10 June *Al-Shorfa* reported that the leader of Fallujah Sahwa forces was killed by suspected al-Qaeda gunmen in an armed attack in "the administrative border area between Samarra and Fallujah, north of town in the Ziraa Dijlah area."⁴¹

On 17 June 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 3 police officers were killed and 9 injured by a suicide bomber as they went to vote in local elections in al-Mualemeen neighbourhood, central Fallujah.⁴²

On 19 June 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that a counterterrorism officer was killed and 3 of his brothers injured in Falluja when suspected al-Qaeda fighters targeted their car with an IED.⁴³

In August 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 2 policemen were killed and 4 injured by a suicide bomber at a police checkpoint in al-Nazzal in central Fallujah on 9 August 2013.⁴⁴

In September 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 3 Sahwa members were killed and 2 injured during an attack on a checkpoint they were manning east of Falluja on 5 September 2013.⁴⁵

On 17 September 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 3 policemen were killed in an armed attack on a checkpoint in central Fallujah.⁴⁶

Haditha

On 20 April 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 2 soldiers and 7 others were injured in a mortar attack by suspected al-Qaeda fighters targeting an army military barracks in al-Khasfa in the Haditha.⁴⁷

In July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 2 were killed and 5 were injured by an IED at a cafe in al-Haqlaniyah in Haditha district on 8 July 2013.⁴⁸

In August 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 2 soldiers were killed and 3 injured by an IED in western Haditha that hit an army convoy carrying humanitarian aid on 8 August 2013.⁴⁹

Al-Dubat

On 11 May 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that a senior Iraqi officer was assassinated by a suspected al-Qaeda gunmen in al-Dubat, western Anbar.⁵⁰

⁴⁰ Al-Shorfa, Three police officers killed in Fallujah, 6 June 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/06/newsbrief-06, accessed 24 September 2013

⁴¹ Al-Shorfa, Fallujah Sahwa leader killed in attack, 10 June 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/10/newsbrief-06, accessed 24 September 2013

⁴² Al-Shorfa, Suicide bomber kills 3 police officers in Fallujah, 17 June 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/17/newsbrief-06, accessed 23 September 2013

⁴³ Al-Shorfa, Counterterrorism officer killed in Fallujah, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/19/newsbrief-05, 19 June 2013, accessed 23 September 2013

⁴⁴ Al-Shorfa, Fallujah suicide bombing kills 2 policemen, 10 August 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/08/10/newsbrief-06, accessed 23 September 2013

⁴⁵ Al-Shorfa, Sahwa members shot at Anbar checkpoint, 9 May 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/05/09/newsbrief-09, accessed 23 September 2013

⁴⁶ Al-Shorfa, Gunmen kill 3 Iraqi policemen at Fallujah checkpoint, 17 September 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/09/17/newsbrief-08, accessed 23 September 2013

⁴⁷ Al-Shorfa, Rocket attack kills 2 Iraqi soldiers west of Anbar, 20 April 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/04/20/newsbrief-05, accessed 23 September 2013

⁴⁸ Al-Shorfa, Haditha cafe blast kills 2, 9 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/09/newsbrief-04, accessed 23 September 2013

⁴⁹ Al-Shorfa, Humanitarian aid convoy targeted in Anbar, 9 August 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/08/09/newsbrief-06, accessed 23 September 2013

Ramadi

On 18 May 2013 *AFP* reported that gunmen kidnapped 10 security force personnel in the Ramadi area, stating that "the area is one of the main centres of the Sunni protest movement in Iraq."⁵¹

In June 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that a prominent moderate cleric was assassinated by a sticky bomb attached beneath his car, in Husaynah al-Sharqiya, east of Ramadi on 17 June 2013.⁵²

On 6 July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that the "'finance minister' for al-Qaeda-affiliated 'Islamic State of Iraq'" and 3 others were killed during operations against al-Qaeda gunmen in al-Jazeera.⁵³

On 11 July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 3 policemen were killed and 4 others were injured by a suicide bomber who attacked al-Andalus police station in al-Jazeera, northern Ramadi.⁵⁴

On 20 July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 2 Iraqi soldiers were killed and 1 injured when 5 Al-Qaeda gunmen attacked an army barracks in al-Jazeera.⁵⁵

In August 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 10 Iraqi soldiers were killed by a suicide bomber driving on explosives-laden tanker at an army checkpoint on the international highway west of Ramadi on 22 August.⁵⁶

Al-Qaim

On 15 June 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 3 Iraqi soldiers were killed by an IED in al-Karabla sub-district southern al-Qaim.⁵⁷

On 10 September 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 4 military personnel were killed and 2 others were injured by a landmine on the Iraqi-Syrian border in al-Humaira, in al-Qaim district.⁵⁸

Al-Khor

In June 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 2 soldiers and 6 al-Qaeda gunmen were killed in clashes on 21 June 2013 in al-Khor.⁵⁹

⁵⁰ Al-Shorfa, Senior Iraqi officer assassinated west of Anbar, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/05/11/newsbrief-06, accessed 23 September 2013

⁵¹ AFP, Iraq violence kills eight, 18 May 2013, <http://www.afp.com/en/node/941849>, accessed 24 September 2013

⁵² Al-Shorfa, Prominent cleric assassinated in Anbar, 17 June 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/17/newsbrief-09, accessed 23 September 2013

⁵³ Al-Shorfa, Al-Qaeda's 'finance' minister killed in Anbar, 6 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/06/newsbrief-06, accessed 24 September 2013

⁵⁴ Al-Shorfa, Anbar and Salaheddine blasts kill 7, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/11/newsbrief-06, accessed 23 September 2013

⁵⁵ Al-Shorfa, Al-Qaeda kills 2 Iraqi soldiers in Anbar, 20 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/20/newsbrief-05, accessed 23 September 2013

⁵⁶ Al-Shorfa, Suicide bomber kills 10 soldiers in Anbar, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/08/23/newsbrief-05, accessed 23 September 2013

⁵⁷ Al-Shorfa, Bomb kills 3 military personnel in western Iraq, 15 June 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/15/newsbrief-04, accessed 24 September 2013

⁵⁸ Al-Shorfa, Landmine kills 4 soldiers on Iraq-Syria border, 10 September 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/09/10/newsbrief-09, accessed 23 September 2013

Zangura

In June 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 4 were killed, including 2 Sahwa members and 7 injured when 2 IEDs were set off near a house in Zangura on 28 June 2013⁶⁰

Rawah

On 25 July *Al-Shorfa* reported that 4 suspected Al-Qaeda gunmen were killed after attacking an army convoy in Rawah, western Anbar.⁶¹

Hit

In July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that a senior Iraqi counterterrorism officer was killed leaving a mosque in central Hit on 29 July 2013.⁶²

Al-Qanater

On 13 August 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 2 were killed and 5 injured by IED blasts on houses owned by Sahwa members in al-Qanater.⁶³

On 28 August 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that an Iraqi army officer was killed at his home by suspected al-Qaeda gunmen, in eastern Fallujah.⁶⁴

Babylon (Babil Governorate)

In November 2012 the *BBC* described Hilla as predominantly Shia.⁶⁵ In September 2011 *Al Jazeera* described Hill as a "mainly Shia city."⁶⁶ We were unable to find information relating to the demographic make up of other areas of Babil during the timeframe of this research.

On 15 April 2013 Bahrain based independent news agency *Iraqi News* reported that 4 were injured by a car bomb near al-Jawadain restaurant in the Shomali area of central Babil.⁶⁷

Hilla

On 19 March 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 3 were killed and 14 injured by a booby-trapped car at a checkpoint in al-Mualemeen neighbourhood in central Hilla.⁶⁸

⁵⁹ Al-Shorfa, West Iraq clashes kill 8, 22 June 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/22/newsbrief-05, accessed 23 September 2013

⁶⁰ Al-Shorfa, At least 27 Iraqis Killed across Baghdad, Anbar and Salaheddine, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/06/29/newsbrief-04, accessed 23 September 2013

⁶¹ Al-Shorfa, Al-Qaeda suspects killed after attacking army convoy in Anbar, 25 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/25/newsbrief-04, accessed 23 September 2013

⁶² Al-Shorfa, Counterterrorism officer killed in Anbar, 29 July 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/07/29/newsbrief-09, accessed 23 September 2013

⁶³ Al-Shorfa, Woman, child hurt and 2 killed in attack on Sahwa homes, 13 August 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/08/13/newsbrief-08, accessed 23 September 2013

⁶⁴ Al-Shorfa, Gunmen kill Iraqi army officer, wound wife at Fallujah home, 28 August 2013, http://al-shorfa.com/en_GB/articles/meii/newsbriefs/2013/08/28/newsbrief-04, accessed 23 September 2013

⁶⁵ BBC, Bombings kill Shias in Iraq cities of Hilla and Karbala, 29 November 2012, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-20537797>, accessed 25 September 2013

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In March 2013 *Jane's* security organisation reported that 2 were killed and 8 wounded in a suicide bomb attack by unidentified militants outside a restaurant in Asriah, a village north of Hilla on 19 March.⁶⁹

On 5 April 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 3 were killed and 9 injured by an IED in al-Mahawil, north of al-Hilla.⁷⁰

On 20 May 2013 *Reuters* reported that 11 were killed by a car bomb near a Shi'ite place of worship and an outdoor market in Hilla.⁷¹

On 4 September 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 5 were killed and 6 wounded by a car bomb outside a restaurant in Jabla, north of Hilla.⁷²

On 15 September 2013 the *BBC* reported that at least 15 were killed by two car bombs at a market in Hilla.⁷³

Mussayab

On 15 April 2013 *Iraqi News* reported that 15 people were injured by a car bomb in Mussayab district of northern Babil.⁷⁴

Jurf al-Sakhar

On 31 May 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 2 Iraqi soldiers were killed and 4 wounded by an IED targeting an army vehicle in Jurf al-Sakhar.⁷⁵

Al-Iskandariyah

In July 2013 *Al-Shorfa* reported that 8 were killed and 20 injured by a suicide bomb outside al-Iskandariyah main mosque.⁷⁶

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