



Consulate General
of the Federal Republic of Germany
Erbil



International Conference in Sulaymaniya /Iraq-Kurdistan

On Human Rights Day, December 10, 2014, 10am
University of Sulaymaniya, College of Fine Arts, Ali Jola Hall, New Campus

"Women and Human Rights": University meets NGO's

Violence against women is a violation of human rights, causing physical, sexual and psychological suffering. Violence against women limits their ability to realise their legal, social, political and economic rights and participation in Iraq's development. Eradicating violence against women is a crucial part of Iraq's efforts to promote gender equality and empower women in all spheres of life.

Efforts to respond to violence against women are hampered by the lack of officially published data on the extend and nature of the violence. Survivors are reluctant to report their cases due to poor handling by medical, police and judicial authorities. When women do come forward, their cases are not recorded systematically.

Initiated by Felsberg Institute for Education and Academic Research (FIBW) and organized in cooperation with WADI e.V., University of Kirkuk and University of Sulaymaniya, the International Conference on "Violence against Women" will be held in Sulaymaniya (Iraq-Kurdistan) on Human Rights Day December 10, 2014.

It is a one day conference and will take place at the University of Sulaymaniya. Bringing together international human rights associations with academics and researchers from different universities and civil society organisations based in Iraq, the crucial issue of "Violence against Women" will be discussed and brought to public interest.

We would be very honoured of your visit.

For the organizing committee
Birgit Svensson

Women and Human Rights in Iraq

Wednesday, December 10

OPENING SESSION 10:00 – 10:30	<i>Welcome Addresses University of Suleimani, WADI, Felsberg Institute, Consulate General of Germany, University of Kirkuk</i>
Welcome Addresses:	Dr. Salahalddin Saeed Ali, President University of Suleimani
10:30 – 11.00 Introduction speech	Professor Salam al-Abadi / Baghdad University Violence against Women in Iraq
PANEL 1 11:00 – 12:00	FGM – Female Genital Mutilation <i>Chair: Falah Shakarm / WADI Iraq project coordinator</i>
<i>Thomas von der Osten-Sacken</i>	FGM in the Autonomous Region of Kurdistan in a global perspective
<i>Dr. Maha al-Saqban</i>	Case Study Diwaniya and Kut
<i>Awesan Noury</i>	Case Study Kirkuk: PANA Centre
12:00 – 12.30	Discussion
12:30 – 13:00	Coffee Brake
PANEL 2 13:00 – 14:00	ISIS in Iraq and Violence against Yazidi Women <i>Chair: Hervar Ibrahim / Head of Women Committee in KRG Parliament</i>
<i>Dr Mirza Dinnayi, Board of Disputed Territories</i>	The Yazidi Community in Iraq in the Light of History
<i>Nareen Shammo, journalist and researcher</i>	Yazidi Women in an on going conflict

<i>Dr. Mamo Farhan Othman, University of Dohuk</i>	The People of the Peacock Angel – Yazidi Religion Today and in the Past
<i>Irene Dulz, UN-Ocha</i>	Yazidi Culture and Beliefs: Working with Displaced Persons from Sinjar
<i>14:00 – 14.30</i>	Discussion
<i>14:30 – 16:00</i>	Lunch Break

PANEL 3 <i>16:00 – 17:00</i>	Domestic Violence Chair: Birgit Svensson / Felsberg Institute
<i>Dr. Jwan Bakhtyar Bahaalddin, Centre for Gender Studies Suleimani</i>	Domestic Violence in Kurdistan
<i>Prof. Fareed Hamoud al- Qaisy, University of Kirkuk</i>	Domestic Violence in Kirkuk
<i>Chnar Saad Abdulla, Head of Vocational Organizations, KDP Political Bureau</i>	Governmental attempts in Iraqi-Kurdistan for a law against Domestic Violence
<i>17:00 – 17:30</i>	Discussion
<i>17:30 – 18:00</i>	Conclusions of the three Panels