

HELP IRAQI WOMEN FIGHT FOR THEIR RIGHTS!

**SUPPORT THE PUBLICATION OF AN INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S
NEWSPAPER IN BAGHDAD!!**

“Our vision is that women should not bend down under the burden of religion, nationalism, tribalism, and Political Islam. Women should stand upright, we should be strong. We are beginning to organize, starting from the north where we can function better, and we will spread to the center and the south. They cannot decide the future for Iraq that women will not have.”

--**Yanar Mohammed**, Coordinator of
Defense of Iraqi Women's Rights

Iraqi women have a long and valiant tradition of fighting for their rights. In 1958, 45,000 thousand women demonstrated in the streets for their civil rights—a good decade before the modern American feminist movement was born.

Due to Saddam Hussein's brutal Baath party regime, repeated US imperialist war and genocidal UN sanctions on Iraq, most of the gains of women have been over-turned. However, Iraqi women continue their fight.

Two independent women's organizations, *Defense of Iraqi Women's Rights (DIWR)*, and the *Independent Women's Organization (IWO)* with the support of the Worker's Communist Party of Iraq, have been working in Northern Iraq to run a women's shelter and fight against Iraqi civil laws based on Shari'a that sanction “honor killings” and other misogynist laws and practices.

IWO has 2000 members and since the opening of their shelter in the 90s, have saved 250 women from “honor killings.”



An Iraqi woman speaks her mind to a US soldier

In the wake of the latest US assault on and occupation of Iraq, IWO and DIWR are launching an independent newspaper **EQUALITY** in Baghdad to fight for the rights of women to be included in the political debate over Iraq's future. **But they need your help! Show your solidarity with the women of Iraq by making a donation to:**

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