

16

[Yazidi Nationality Bill sparks debate and opposition in Iraqi Parliament](#)[Charter of Ezidikhan's Justice Tribunal unveiled](#)[Ezidikhan Adopts Universal Jurisdiction](#)[Ezidikhan Proclaims Its National Borders](#)[Ezidikhan Government no longer 'Provisional'](#)[Armenians, Yezidis Concur on Criminal Tribunal](#)[Criminal Tribunal to Deter Atrocities](#)[Kurdish secret police abduct, slay prominent Yezidi activist Jamil Sulaiman](#)[Ezidikhan to Turkey, PKK, KRG: "Get out!"](#)[Turkish drones strike Shingal](#)[Ezidikhan calls for environmental safeguards](#)[Massive fire leaves 150 IDP families homeless](#)[Ezidikhan endorses Michael Newton to head UNITAD](#)[Iraq passes Yezidi Female Survivors Law](#)[Yezidis Bury Kocho Genocide Victims](#)[New Flags for Ezidikhan, Spiritual Council](#)

- [Home](#)
 -
- [Who are the Yezidis?](#)
 -
- [About Ezidikhan](#)
 -
- [Justice Tribunal](#)
 -
- [Contact Us](#)
 -
- SECTIONS
 - [Home](#)
 -
 - [Who are the Yezidis?](#)
 -
 - [About Ezidikhan](#)
 -
 - [Justice Tribunal](#)
 -
 - [Contact Us](#)
 -

REGISTER

@

LOGIN



 English

Milletê Tawsî Melekî – the “Nation of the Peacock Angel”.

NAV

- [Home](#)
- [Who are the Yezidis?](#)
- [About Ezidikhan](#)
- [Justice Tribunal](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

NAV

- NAV
 - [Home](#)
 - [Who are the Yezidis?](#)
 - [About Ezidikhan](#)
 - [Justice Tribunal](#)
 - [Contact Us](#)

TOP 10

All Time

- Most Views
 - Most Likes
 - Best Reviewed
 - Highest Rated
 - Most Comments
 - Most Views
 -

1

[الإعلان: إنشاء الحكومة المؤقتة لإزديخان](#)

2

[Turkish jets repeat attack on Yezidi villages](#)

3

[Ezidikhan Investigative Team on Genocide Established](#)

4

[Arson ring targets Head of Ezidikhan Investigative Team on Genocide](#)

5

[Proclamation: Establishment of the Provisional Government of Ezidikhan](#)

6

[Ezidikhan rejects Baghdad-Irbil deal to hand Shingal back to Kurds](#)

7

[Ezidikhan Justice Minister interview: “Indigenous people are ...](#)

8

[Alliance of Indigenous Nations: Winds of Change in the Middle East?](#)

9

[‘Seeds of Life’ Agriculture Project launched by Ezidikhan](#)

10

[Ezidikhan Autonomy, Reconstruction Talks begin in Baghdad](#)

-
previous
Charter of Ezidikhan's Justice Tribunal unveiled

 English

-
random

-
next

38 views 0 likes 0 comments

Yazidi Nationality Bill sparks debate and opposition in Iraqi Parliament

by [Patrick Harrigan](#) on 2024-06-13



[Baghdad, 12 June] A proposal to recognise Yazidis as a distinct nationality within Iraq has ignited political controversy, particularly among the Kurdish bloc in the Iraqi parliament.

The Yazidi Nationality draft law, introduced by Yazidi representatives, aims to elevate the Yazidis to the same status as other recognised Iraqi nationalities such as Arabs, Kurds and Turkmen. This move has been met with resistance, mainly from Kurdish MPs, who argue that it could lead to division and further complications.

Last week, Yazidi MPs submitted the proposal to the Iraqi parliament, backed by signatures from 182 lawmakers across various factions. The Yazidi bloc regards the proposal as a crucial step towards justice for the community, which suffered genocidal attacks from Islamic State (ISIS) militants.

When ISIS occupied approximately a third of Iraq's territory in 2014, they targeted the Yazidis in the Sinjar region, [committing widespread and horrific atrocities](#) that includes mass killings, abductions and sexual enslavement.

Naif Khalaf Sidou, head of the Yazidi bloc, confirmed that the bill has been referred to  English committee. He noted that the acting Speaker of the House has approved sending the proposal to the committee, when it will be sent to the legal committee before it undergoes the first and second readings and is ultimately put to a vote.

Yazidi activist Maiser Saeed told *The New Arab*'s Arabic-language sister publication, [*Al-Araby Al-Jadeed*](#) that the Yazidis have endured significant oppression under ISIS and deserve recognition as a distinct Iraqi nationality. Saeed stressed that the bill would treat Yazidi as a nationality in terms of rights and duties, while not negating their religious identity.

He acknowledged opposition to the bill but highlighted that with 182 signatories, the bill stands a good chance of being voted on, which heightens the anxiety of opposing factions. Saeed asserted that the law would grant Yazidis a unified political voice comparable to other Iraqi communities.

The initiative coincided with the anniversary of ISIS atrocities against Yazidis, underscoring the community's ongoing quest for recognition and justice. However, the proposal has faced fierce opposition from Kurdish politicians, who view it as divisive and legally untenable.

Ibrahim Mirani, an MP from the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), described the proposal as illegal, stating that Yazidism is a religion, not a nationality. He stressed that Iraq does not categorize religions based on ethnicity. Mirani reiterated support for compensating Yazidis but opposed the legislation.

Ismail Al-Sanjari, another KDP member, characterized the bill as politically motivated. He argued that Yazidis are a historic and integral part of the Kurdish nationality and cannot be separated. Al-Sanjari vowed to work with like-minded MPs to prevent the bill from passing and urged Yazidi lawmakers to reconsider their stance, which he believes does not serve their best interests.

Murad Ismael, a Yazidi activist, supports the proposed law in the Iraqi Parliament to recognise Yazidis as both an ethnic group and a religious community, emphasising their unique ethno-religious identity. He calls for respect towards the shared historical and cultural ties between Yazidis and Kurds, urging that [Yazidis'](#) quest for independent identity should not be seen as against Kurdish interests.

Under the current parliamentary quota system, the Yazidi minority is allocated only one seat, a situation that Yazidi politicians argue does not reflect their population size. This limited representation has forced Yazidi candidates to run under Kurdish lists, a reality the draft law seeks to address by granting [Yazidis](#) independent national recognition.

As the debate unfolds, the future of the Yazidi Nationality Bill remains uncertain, with strong sentiments on both sides highlighting the complexities of identity and representation in [Iraq](#)'s diverse and often contentious political landscape.

Courtesy: [The New Arab of 12 June 2024](#)

0 likes

[Baghdad](#), [KDP](#)



[Patrick Harrigan](#)

Patrick Harrigan trained in comparative religion and indology at the University of Michigan and UC-Berkeley. Since 2014 he has been serving as editor, publisher and policy consultant to the Yezidi Nation.

You might also like

[BaghdadKDP](#)



Ezidikhan to Turkey, PKK, KRG: “Get out!”

 English

Latest News

Yazidi Nationality Bill sparks debate and opposition in Iraqi Parliament
Charter of Ezidikhan’s Justice Tribunal unveiled
Ezidikhan Adopts Universal Jurisdiction
Ezidikhan Proclaims Its National Borders
Ezidikhan Government no longer ‘Provisional’
Armenians, Yezidis Concur on Criminal Tribunal

Pages

- [About Ezidikhan](#)
- [Blog](#)
- [Charter of the Nations’ International Criminal Tribunal \(NICT\)](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Home](#)
- [Who are the Yezidis?](#)

TOP 10 This Year

1

[Charter of Ezidikhan’s Justice Tribunal unveiled](#)

2

[Yazidi Nationality Bill sparks debate and opposition in Iraqi Parli...](#)

Subscribe to Ezidikhan.net

Subscribe to Ezidikhan posts

Name*

Email*

☐ Please read our [terms and conditions](#)

Submit

EXCLUSIVE!
NEWS CONTENT

- [Yazidi Nationality Bill sparks debate and opposition in Iraqi Parliament](#)

Full Story

Yazidi Nationality Bill sparks debate and opposition in Iraqi Parliament

Charter of Ezidikhan's Justice Tribunal unveiled

Ezidikhan Adopts Universal Jurisdiction

Ezidikhan Proclaims Its National Borders

Ezidikhan Government no longer 'Provisional'

Armenians, Yezidis Concur on Criminal Tribunal

Criminal Tribunal to Deter Atrocities

Kurdish secret police abduct, slay prominent Yezidi activist Jamil Sulaiman

Ezidikhan to Turkey, PKK, KRG: "Get out!"

Turkish drones strike Shingal

HELLO!

CONNECT

ENTER YOUR E-MAIL

Connect Widgets

TRENDING

493

Ezidikhan Proclaims Its National Borders

-
291

Ezidikhan Government no longer 'Provisional'

-
248

Ezidikhan Adopts Universal Jurisdiction

-
142

Charter of Ezidikhan's Justice Tribunal unveiled

-
38

Yazidi Nationality Bill sparks debate and opposition in Iraqi Parliament

Top 10 Articles

 English

- 1 [Massive fire leaves 150 IDP families homeless](#)
- 2 [Exxon Mobil accused of human rights abuse in Ezidikhan](#)
- 3 [Ezidikhan Governing Council Passes Genocide Investigative Body into...](#)
- 4 [Alliance of Indigenous Nations denounces Turkey, Iraq and Kurdistan](#)
- 5 [Yezidis: A History of Persecution](#)
- 6 [Armenians, Yezidis Concur on Criminal Tribunal](#)
- 7 [‘Seeds of Life’ Agriculture Project launched by Ezidikhan](#)
- 8 [Emergency consultations between Ezidikhan and friendly nations](#)
- 9 [Kurds and Iraq seek to extort Ezidikhan denial of Genocide](#)
- 10 [Massive Turkish air strike follows threats against Ezidikhan](#)

-
-
-
-

[Agriculture](#) [air strikes](#) [alliance](#) [Amy Beam](#) [Armenia](#) [Arson](#) [Assistance](#) [Autonomy](#) [Baba Salem](#) [Baba Sheikh](#) [baghdad](#) [Barfo](#)
[Tamoyan](#) [Barjis Soso Khalaf](#) [Barzani](#) [Cabinet](#) [Confederation](#) [Crops](#) [External Affairs](#) [Exxon Mobil](#) [Ezidikhan](#) [flag](#) [Flood](#) [France](#)
[Genocide](#) [Hammo](#) [IDP](#) [India](#) [indigenous](#) [investigation](#) [Kocho](#) [Mandaeen](#) [Nallein Sowilo](#) [NICT](#) [persecution](#) [Proclamation](#)
[Rebuild and Return](#) [reconstruction](#) [refugees](#) [Relief](#) [Romani](#) [Security Council](#) [Shabak](#) [Shingal](#) [Swaraj](#) [Sweden](#) [Tribunal](#) [turkey](#) [UNHCR](#) [United Nations](#) [Zoroastrian](#)

Copyright © 2024 Ezidikhan: Voice of the Yezidi Nation, All Rights Reserved.

Fonts by [Google Fonts](#). Icons by [Fontello](#). Full Credits [here »](#)

DEMO SETTINGS

Accents

#BD2A33

Background

#FFFFFF

Google Fonts

MENU FONT...



SECTION HEADERS...



CONTENT HEADERS...



BODY FONT...



WIDGET FONT...



[More Theme Info](#)