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2.5. Tribes

COMMON ANALYSIS
Last update: November 2024

The analysis below is based on the following EUAA COI report: Arab Tribes 2023, 1.1, 2, 4.1, 4.2. Country Guidance should not be referred to as source of COI.

Tribalism is a defining characteristic of Iraqi society and has influence throughout the country. It is particularly strong in the western/central areas and the south of Iraq, notably in rural areas. Tribalism is prominent within the Sunni community, especially in the governorates of Anbar, Salah-al-din, Kirkuk and Ninewa.

Tribes in Iraq are often involved in conflicts (see 4.3.3.a) Security situation in Iraq: recent events), and they are armed with heavy weapons. Tribal transgressions can result in violence, including blood feuds (see 3.14. Persons involved in and affected by blood feuds in the context of tribal conflict). Tribal dispute mechanisms can result in violation of human rights, such as the practice of *fasliya* (see 3.11.3. Forced and child marriage) and honour killings (see 3.8. Individuals perceived to transgress moral codes).

See other topics concerning actors of persecution or serious harm:

- 2.1. The Iraqi Federal State actors
- 2.2. Popular Mobilisation Forces (PMF)
- 2.3. Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) authorities
- 2.4. The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)
- *2.5. Tribes*
- 2.6. Other actors

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