

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](#)