

12 November 1960

NEW IRAQ

1337

A MONTHLY PICTORIAL MAGAZINE ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF GUIDANCE

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A MONTHLY PICTORIAL MAGAZINE
ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF GUIDANCE

SUPERVISED BY THE DIRECTORATE OF POPULAR ARTS AND CULTURE — BAGHDAD

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It pleases me to see, as the world is celebrating the United Nations Day, that the efforts which this Organisation is exerting for the welfare of the peoples of the world and their economical progress are bearing fruit: I wish it success in the political field. The Government of the Iraqi Republic always wishes the experts of the United Nations - irrespective of their different nationalities - success and progress and extension of their work for the sake of further strengthening economy and raising the standard of the peoples of the world.

Abdul Karim Qassim
Prime Minister



**THE IRAQI
REPUBLIC
AT THE UNITED
NATION'S 15th
ANNIVERSARY**

These words of greetings show the degree of the Iraqi Republic's faith in this International Body, and its attachment to their political principles - signed by it along with 50 other nations in 1945, in the equality between nations and the carrying out of its obligations in good faith, its undertaking to settle their disputes by peaceful means without using force or threatening any State or its political independence, and not to resort to any means which are incompatible with the aims of the United Nations, and to afford all possible assistance, provided that this Organisation steers and guides the non-members States into accepting the principles of the Pact, as much as necessary for keeping peace and order, and non-interference in their personal affairs which are purely international for any State, except when decisions have to be taken for safeguarding and preserving peace.

While undertaking these obligations, Iraq believes that the United Nations would settle the Algerian and Oman disputes - under its consideration at present in spite of the fact that it was down when it approved the partition of Palestine, and its long silence on the Algerian War of liberation,

and the beastly crimes which are being committed by France against Arab peoples who believe in their Motherland. This faith did not take root without reason: It was the direct outcome of the positive attitude of the United Nations on world affairs. The Arabs will never forget its impact regarding the tripartite aggression on Egypt during 1956. The United Nations Organisation has, therefore, become the safe refuge for all the peoples of the world owing to its ability to solve international disputes by peaceful means, and its readiness to protect the rights of the oppressed peoples and still suffering under the Imperial yoke, and its firm stand in face of international storms and growing differences and serious problems.

In its present session, this Organisation has also admitted 16 new States, among which are 15 African States.

Thus the number of Afro-Asian States has risen from 28 States to 44. The attitude of these States and their solidarity will actively help in the solution of international disputes by peaceful means, and surmount the contradictions in which it gets entangled - between science and peace, contradictions, which at the United Nations. It is the day of triumph

all with danger.

After the July Revolution, the Iraqi Republic has come up prominently before the United Nations as a strong and powerful State neutral and with full sovereignty. The whole world heard its ringing voice before the General Committee a few days ago from the mouth of its Foreign Minister, who delivered a bold and frank speech, which constituted a shortening blow to Israel. Never before has any responsible Arab Statesman spoke so confidently about the restoration of the occupied Palestine to the Arab Motherland. His attitude was the same with regard to international matters.

On the 24th October, Baghdad Radio and Television relayed the ceremony held in this connection, it contained a recorded speech by his Excellency the Leader and also speeches of Ministers.

We are pleased to give below extracts from these speeches delivered on this international occasion, which was celebrated by 99 states.

The Leader and Prime Minister said:

"It pleases me today to participate in the celebration of the anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations. It is the day of triumph

for peoples struggling for their freedom and independence. It is the day of triumph for mankind.

The United Nations is still considered as a great historical experiment trying the ability of men to create an international organization that endeavours to settle disputes and reach agreement among States, treating social problems and realising economic and cultural cooperation among states and consequently helping peoples in what is right, supporting defeated countries and the triumph of the forces of good over the other forces in the world.

This Republic with its whole people is proud today to have supported this International Organization and abided by just spirit of its charter. It will always work for the stabilisation of peace and liberation of peoples and support for mankind in the world.

While blessing the great effort exerted by the United Nations, we hope it will follow the path of justice and wisdom and avoid mistakes and blunders, so that it can protect peoples against aggression and succeed in terminating the cold war and eliminating all kinds of disputes among various States, and restore dignity to individuals, communities and all peoples."

Minister of Guidance said:

"The Iraqi Republic, a sincere member of the United Nations is proud that it has been, and still is conforming in all attitudes to the letter and spirit of the Charter of this Organization, and honouring all its material and moral obligations. As a liberated neutralist State, and naturally, and by virtue of its foreign policy and vital interests, the Iraqi Republic proceeds on the side of the right, justice, and peace and stands by the peoples struggling for their freedom.

While we congratulate the peoples on this feat, we await the day the Palestine cause will be solved, and the usurped land will



be restored to the people; when colonialism gets out of Algeria so that its people will enjoy their land and wealth; and when the people of Oman will be provided with the opportunity of self determination. We will not rest unless our problems, and others which have

been outstanding for years, are solved. We are confident that these matters, once they are solved, will serve world peace and will help the United Nations to fulfil its mission perfectly.

The Afro-Asian bloc, which includes the Arab countries, and whose influence and number is increasing day by day, through the struggle of the peoples of these two Continents, was able to play a vital role, in the current sessions of the United Nations for the prevalence of peace, alleviating the dangers of war, bringing closer the viewpoints of the East and the West, adopting disarmament plans and calling for the admission of the People's China to the United Nations.

This bloc will have the opportunity in the future, through its increasing influence, and advocacy of the call for peace and peaceful co-existence, to gain many a cause, including the Arab Nation Causes, mainly the Palestine, Algerian and Oman causes."



Minister of Education said:

"All that we hope for, while celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations, is that this Organization will be fully capable of serving peace and humanity, and an effective organization to establish and strengthen the principles of justice and right, and impose them on the strong States.

We know that the path of the United Nations is unpaved and not strewn with flowers, that it is under-



mined by those from here and there, and that sharp thorns obstruct the sincere elements. However, we know on the other hand, that these thorns and mines will inevitably be removed and that the will of the peoples will certainly prevail and rule through the United Nations.

Undoubtedly the peoples who aspire for freedom, are today reassured of a word often uttered by peoples and which is harmonious with their feelings. That word is

"the matter has been taken to the United Nations." This encourages the good and the optimistic, and makes them still more faithful that the United Nations has become an inseparable part, and a foundation for settling international issues. In my opinion, the best safeguard to the small peoples is in the strengthening of the United Nations, and its consolidation and application of its resolutions.

IRAQI ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION



Early in 1921, the light of modern civilization in Iraq had not yet dawned and pierced through the crevices of its ancient gates. It remained thus until 1930 when the windows began to open gradually on the world outside.

At that time the number of engineers did not exceed ten : most of them had studied in the Ottoman institutes At Istanbul, or were pensioned officers -Engineers- from the Ottoman Army. But

the Government of the time could not but attend to this subject, and opened a school to teach engineering therein : its standard, however, was not above, or a little more than, that of a school for training surveyors.

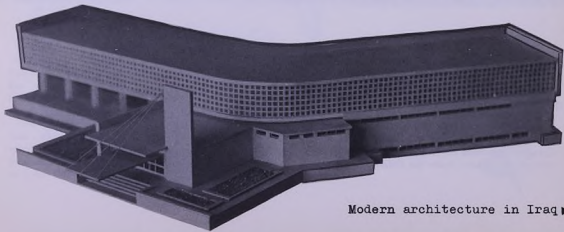
During 1935, the Engineers - tens of them holding diplomas from Colleges, conceived an idea to form an association which would unite them together and help to raise their scientific and social standards. This idea, however, did not take



View of the Association's building from behind.



Hall for meetings, overlooking the Association's back garden.

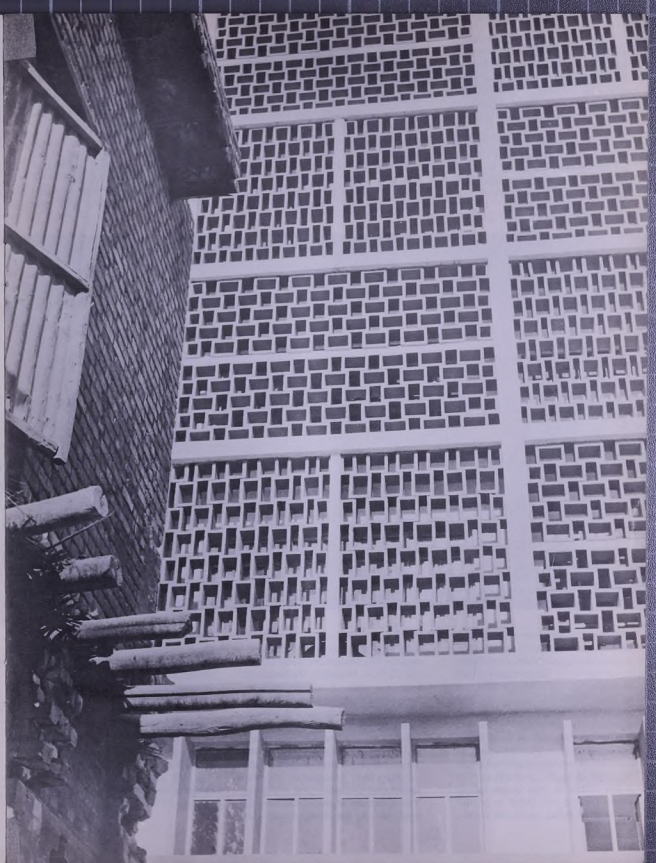


Modern architecture in Iraq ▶

shape owing to the paucity of workers in this field, and the different places in which they were employed. After 3 years, the idea was revived for the second time, and an application to establish an association in accordance with the provisions of the Law of Associations of 1922, was submitted on 6/2/1938. The request was granted on 4/5/1938, but the association did not function until 4/3/1940. It obtained, in 1945, a piece of land in Saadun to build its general headquarters thereon. It secured, likewise, permission for a general subscription amounting to I.D. 10,000/- to ensure the construction of the said building. On 18/12/1948, the building in question was completed - a fact which encouraged the engineers to join the association. In 1950 the members numbered 42, which continued to increase consecutively year by year, until the number of active members rose to 78 in 1951. During 1954, it was 161, besides supporters; the total reaching 208 members, out of which one third are holders of high degrees.

The Association, ever since its inception, has displayed great activities in various spheres which fall within its scope of specialization - a fact which was reflected - prominently - by its participation in Engineers' conferences - particularly in the 6th and 7th Conference of Engineers.

During the era of our Republic, these activities were marked by a general constructive policy, after the tide of foreign contracting companies was held and stopped in Iraq, the duties of supervision, and designing groups of houses and public buildings, were entrusted to our engineers, including the planning of roads, making public gardens etc., e.g. various developments and construction projects. During this interval, the activities of the Association were directed toward many vital fields - a fact which led it to double its exertions to build, consider, study and draw up plans whether in its general capacity as an association working in its sphere of construction or in its special capacity of a social institution the members of which go to work individually.



In 1933 one of the Egyptian Scholars addressed a number of questions to the great Iraqi Thinker and poet, Jamil Sidiqi al Zahawi, with the purpose of making the poet become his own biographer and to portrait himself with his own pen.

The attempt - which covered many personal and general subjects connected with the life of the poet-disclosed a part of his thoughtful and personal life, which had remained unknown so far. It likewise shed some light on many

of his liberal opinions - erstwhile obscure - on politics, science, literature, society and other educational subjects prevalent in his time

While relating to our readers some of his interesting answers to the queries, we think that to narrate the life of that unique personality, which contributed toward, and participated in the service of the Arab World, defended the Arabic language, and struggled for the sake of resolving the educational and scientific programme and

freedom of thought, granting women their lost and unsurped liberty, is a matter which is considered as foremost of our patriotic duties which aim - first of all - at eulogising the lives of our thinkers who, at the beginning of the new era, revolted against tyranny and corruption, and everything resulting from the age of decline in the Arab East i.e. ugly and sad traces.

The most critical hour in my life was when I was put in prison by Sultan Abdul Hamid, who later

you can find in the collection of Zahawi's poems, Al Lubab and Alaushal.

Science and literature are two wings for progress, with which nations fly: I do not prefer science on literature except a little.

I found that most of the criticism was based on partiality and ignorance: I welcome the criticism if it is disinterested and honest. However, spiteful criticism is harmful in that it discourages the rising youth.

I was the first to repute the theory of gravity and to replace it by the theory of repulsion. In this connection, I wrote many articles which were published by Al Muqattaf about 40 years ago. Later, I published something about my views on the subject in my book Al Kainat (Universe), printed in the Al Muqattaf Press in the year 1896. I then amended it in my letter Al Jazbiyeh Wa Ta'lliha Gravity and its analysis, which was published in Baghdad during

1910. Later I explained it further in my letter Summary of what I think.

The East lacks modern scientific books and freedom of thought for the people.

We should help the peasant by making him a partner with the landlord on certain conditions. If he contravened them, the partnership would dissolve.

In Iraq there is no literary renaissance which could satisfy one. Scholars and learned men are few



AL-ZAHAWI

THE POET-PHILOSOPHER

sent me to my country under guard and humiliated as a punishment for my having joined the free Turks in asking for a Constitution about 36 years ago - (i.e. before 63 years as from 1960)

Again then the Iraqi people agitated against me 23 years ago (i.e. before 50 years as from 1960) on account of a violent article in defence of women, published by Al Moayyid in Egypt: so much so that I was forced to stay in my house, which I could not leave to go out for fear of being murdered by the

rebellious people. The then Vali of Baghdad Nadhim Pasha dismissed me from the post of professor in the Law College, Baghdad. My happiest hour was when I used to read in Syrian and Egyptian papers articles appreciating my views and poems. And also when on a certain day, when I was a professor of philosophy in the University of Istanbul, there came some senior critics from among the professors of the University to inform me officially that a lecture of mine was considered as of the first class. The

Ministry of Education had selected three professors, including myself, to lecture on the subject of philosophy, to the University students and others among professors and those who studied sciences.

Sometimes I mean Lella of Iraq, whereas in fact, and on certain occasions, I mean the girl whom I used to love in Istanbul.

My poetry, in which love prevails, is embodied in a few poems

and scattered - foremost among them is my great teacher Fehmi al Mudarris.

In my age, I tried to learn English, but was prevented from continuing its practice as I was very busy in my philosophy.

My father knew Persian, and liked the poetry of Al Khayyam and Al Firdosi. He taught me this language, so that I could make poems in it. As regards the Turkish language, this was the official language, which I learned to secure

Government posts.

Had I not been a poet or a philosopher, I would have chosen to become a lawyer.

The difficult task which I undertook upon myself to carry out, was to oppose the tyranny during the reign of Sultan Abdul Hamid.

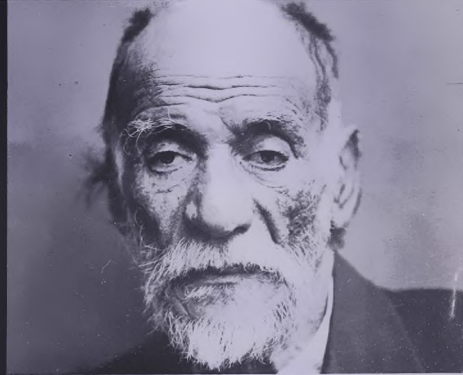
The most beloved personality is that of Muhammad, since he was the greatest reformer - I like Copernic because he was the first to prove that the land revolves round the sun. I like Darwin since he informed us about the origin of mankind;

and discovered the theories of growth and progress. I like Nutshe the German, for his courage in what he said and wrote.

The culture which a bold poet and a capable dramatist and an artist scholar needs is to know psychology and to state his opinions with courage.

Life is improved with education and character.

Study history fully and analyse it impartially.





OPENING THE GUIDANCE CENTER AT

Ramadi

At 5 p.m. on the first Saturday of October 1960, the citizens of Ramadi and their brothers from Baghdad had a rendez vous at the Public library to attend an inauguration ceremony at Ramadi where the Ministry of Guidance established a third Center of Guidance and Instruction.

Just at the time fixed, crowds, representing different sections of the people, began to gather; and the hall of the library and its

spacious gardens was filled to overflowing with guests - prominent among whom were the Mutasarrif of the Liwa, Sayyed Arif al Talabani under whose patronage the ceremony was held - Director of Police at Ramadi, commander of the garrison, and number of Offices of the Army and Police, along with the representative of the Ministry of Guidance Doctor Akrom Fadhil Director of Arts and Popular Culture

As the ceremony commenced

the audience listened to the recital of the Holy Koran by the reader Sayyed Abdul Rahman Taufiq.

Thereafter, Sayyed al Talabani made a brief speech, in which he explained the necessity for the opening of the center; and concluded it with cheers for the long life of the immortal Republic and of its glorious Leader, His Excellency Abdul Karim Kassim.

Doctor Akrom Fadhil then got up and delivered an interesting

speech in which he explained the aims of the Ministry of Guidance which came into being just as the first anniversary of the 14th July Revolution was being celebrated. He also related the services which the Ministry had rendered in the field of culture and guidance, including the Ramadi Center, the inauguration ceremony of which was being held, and which will form a meeting place for those learning Science and literature from among

the people of Ramadi. The Director of Arts and Popular Culture invited the citizens to cooperate with the Ministry of Guidance in carrying out its model task - and, in the course of his speech, assured the public that the Ministry welcomes anyone with gifted ideas, that it is ready to receive the work of the right thinking cultured Iraqis, and requested them to supply the "New Iraq" Magazine with articles on research, and pictures representing various activities of life in our

country.

As the Western music was played, refreshments were served to each and every one of the Guidance.

Then the Mutasarrif cut the ribbon and announced the Opening of the Center. Later the guests were shown, in the large winter hall, some of the Cinema films. With the playing of the Republican anthem, the ceremony came to an end at about 7 p.m.



A VISIT TO

The Ministry of Social Affairs is still busy in preparing new schemes and projects which could serve the interests of the public. Peoples' baths head the list of those projects. The experimental public baths, which have been built in certain quarters of Baghdad, have been used with unprecedented enthusiasm by the people, since the big majority of the inhabitants of those regions had neither enough water nor suitable places for bathing. This situation led the Ministry to construct similar baths near each social centre established in each overcrowded area: the more so, as such coupling together of two social projects will lay stress on guidance and instruction in the social centre through practical application in public baths.

The public bath at Tel Muhammad is a good example to support our statement. It was built after the establishment of a social centre in that area; and is a logical outcome of the social and sanitary awakening there. If we want to be sure of this assertion, we have only to look through the register of bathers to find that during the interval

between the morning and evening on one day, there were between 700 and 800 persons who had a bath. This number really represents a great ratio of the residents of that area, who are in need of such a service and cannot afford to have it in their homes.

This bath opens for men at 8 in the morning up to 2 in the afternoon. Then begins the interval for women and ends at 7 p.m. each day. The very small charge of 4 fils paid by the bather for this service represents only a token figure, and cannot be considered, under any circumstances, as being its real charge. This is what has encouraged the public to use it frequently: a fact which makes it impossible for the water reservoir to meet the needs of the bathers. This problem has been solved by installing a new pump for filling the tanks continuously.

The supervision of this bath is carried out by men and women supervisors assisted by male and female farrashes, a stoker and a mechanic. All these are under the administration of the Social Centre at Tel Muhammad, which is, in turn, attached to the Directorate of Social Services.

THE PEOPLES BATH AT TEL MUHAMMAD



NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM

The Museum of Natural History in Baghdad was established and opened officially on 2nd May 1946, under the direct supervision of the Ministry of Education. During December 1946, this Museum was attached to the Higher Training College, and later to the College of Literature and Science on 26th March 1957. In the near future, it will become an institute for Biology Research directly under the University of Baghdad, reserving to itself the right to exhibit its contents, service of the schools and the public.

The Museum has two fundamental aims:- firstly to collect specimens of animals in Iraq, its vegetables, and mines, to study and classify and to help by all possible means those concerned in research work, to publish scientific research to provide a special library of books etc., on the subject of natural history; and to assist those concerned with research in this field. Secondly - to exhibit specimens representing Iraq's natural history with all possible technical means and facilitate their exhibition to, and study by, the students of schools in particular, and the public, in general. Thus the Museum is trying to help spend the citizens leisure of a few hours in enjoyment and benefit - as is done in similar museums in the civilized world. It likewise pays special care, provided circumstances permit - to train amateurs among teachers in the art of embalming, and to start special courses for this purpose, if possible.

2. Activities of the Museum.

In the Service of School and Education.

The Museum has, ever since its establishment up to the present, undertaken to raise the standard of scientific studies in schools by audio-visual means, is accepting visits of teachers from schools to explain to them the specimens, and encourage them to strengthen

their power of observation, and comparison and to support theoretical study by observation and examination.

Publication of Scientific Research Reports

The Museum began, since 1950, to issue scientific pamphlets on subjects of natural history, which are studied in the Museum or outside it, and publishes the research reports by Iraqis and others. The Museum is concerned most with all that relates to the animals in Iraq and its vegetations. It has so far issued 18 pamphlets, which are sent - in exchange - to museums, scientific societies, and institutes in Iraq and outside it.

Information about the Natural History Museum.

Scientific tours. The Museum Authority goes on scientific tours to collect specimens from all parts of Iraq; but has always in mind the problem of the smallness of the building - a fact which makes it to freeze most of its activities in this important direction. If a suitable building could be made available, it could double its efforts in the collection of specimens, and could establish exchange relations with foreign museums, which could supply it with many specimens for exhibition and for purposes of study.

3. Sections of the Museum.

The Museum has at present the following sections.

a) Exhibition Section. It contains different specimens of Iraqi animals and vegetations, along with some fossils, and a number of gypsum models made in the Museum. This section also contains skeletons, and specimens of animals from outside Iraq. It is concerned with the collection of specimens not for exhibition only, but for study and comparison as well. This section is growing constantly and needs a long time and cooperation with amateurs to make the scientific collections of

the requisite standard.

b) Technical Section for embalming, and making gypsum samples, painting, preparation of preserving liquids for saving the specimens etc from damage.

c) Laboratory contains means of collection, photography, inspection and preparation of the necessary chemical compounds.

d) Library contains at present about 7000 books on various subjects of Natural History. Those who have visited the Museum, from among interested foreigners, believe that the library stands foremost among the libraries of the Middle East as it contains original and important reference books on subjects of natural history. This Library is expanding constantly by virtue of continuous purchases and the publications which reach it by way of exchange.

There is in the Museum a small workshop for carpentry, which makes cupboards etc., needed by the Museum.

4. Museum's relation, with Foreign Institutions.

The Museum has established firm relations with foreign museums, societies, and universities, and with some scientists, and it exchanges publications with these quarters; and can, if circumstances permit exchange specimens even. The members of these bodies with whom it corresponds at present or exchanges publications is about 250. Such being the case, it enjoys abroad good reputations: The Museum is considered unique of its kind in this region. There is no similar museum resembling it in the adjoining countries; its activities in publications have likewise become well known abroad.

Administration.

The Museum is administered at present by a professor deputed from the College of Science, and is assisted by a number of officials and specialists.



Wealth of birds from the north after a successful scientific tour.

Spoonbill and flamingo - birds from the Iraqi swamps.



In the laboratory - where Iraqi girls participate in the scientific life of New Iraq.



An extraordinary meeting of the Iraqi birds.

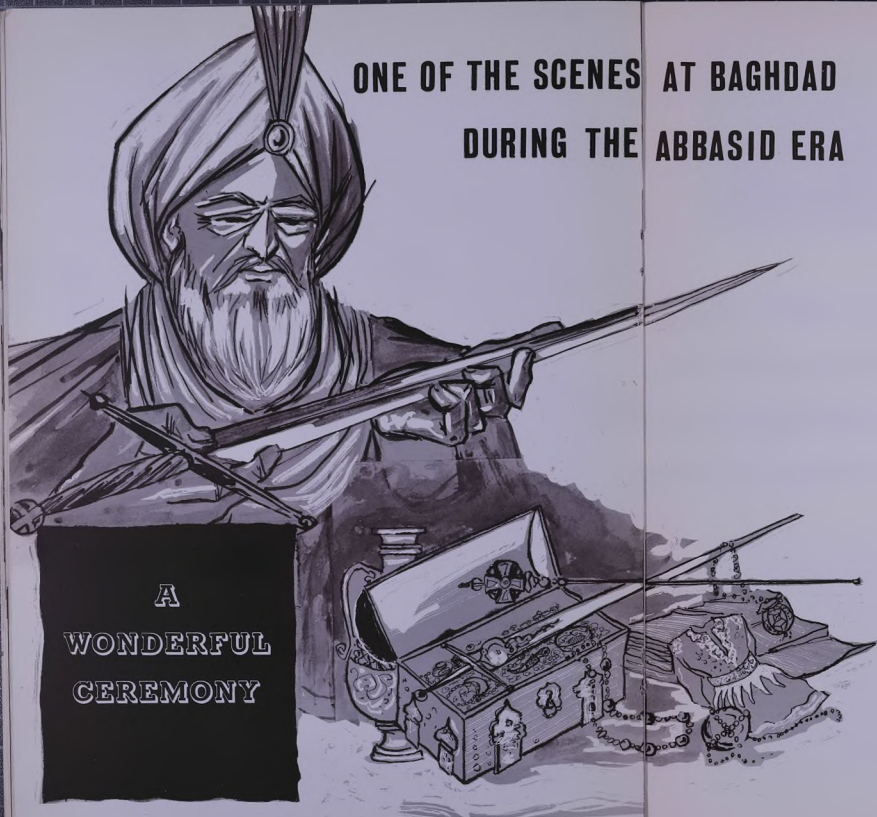


First stages of the process of making gypsum specimen of animals.



NATIONAL ELECTRICITY ADMINISTRATION

ONE OF THE SCENES AT BAGHDAD DURING THE ABBASID ERA



A
WONDERFUL
CEREMONY

During the year 305 hijra -927 A.D. - a deputation from the King of Rome, comprising 22 members, under a young man, visited Baghdad to negotiate for the exchange of prisoners between Moslems and Romans, and to agree upon an armistice for peace between the two parties - after skirmishes and aggressions, which occurred on the frontiers between the Moslem State and the Roman Empire. The Caliph Al Muqtadir Billah Al Abbasi received the deputation at a ceremony considered by the historians as one of the outstanding events in the history of Baghdad during that period. We narrate below a full description of this ceremony as related by the historian Ibn Kathir in his book Al Bidayah Wa Al Nihayah (Beginning and End)

The whole army, numbering 160000 cavalry and infantry - fully armed and equipped - rode out in addition to the troops, in every part of the country and their deputies, along with 700 ushers. As regards canoes, boats and gondolas in the Tigris, most of them had been decorated. As soon as the envoy entered the Caliph's Palace, he was dazzled by what he saw. He beheld decorous attendants, decorations and forbiddances which dazzled his eyes. When he passed by an usher, he thought him to be the Caliph: he was then told that the man was a mere usher. He then passed by the Minister - pompous and magnificent - and mistook him for the Caliph. He was informed that the person was only a Minister. The house was decorated in such a splendid manner as no one had heard or seen any thing like it. There were in it 38000 curtains and screens, out of which 10500 were woven in gold. There had been spread in the house 2200 carpets and rugs, the like of which nobody had seen. There were herds of ferocious but tamed animals which were fed at the hands of the public. Also there were 100 lions

with their keepers. The envoy was then led to the 'House of The Three' which was a pond containing clear water, in the midst of which there stood a tree of gold and silver, having 18 branches, most of which had been made of gold: in the branches, stems and coloured were also golden, silvery, hung with pearls and rubies. They used to produce different sounds from water pouring on them: The tree was swaying and swinging, like other trees, in the movements at which the spectators wondered. The envoy was then taken to a place called Al Firdous (paradise) in which were spread various kinds of carpets and countless instruments - the beauty of which was beyond description. In the corridors were 18000 cushions - interwoven with gold. Wherever the envoy passed, he wondered and was dazzled: then he reached the place where the Caliph Al Muqtadir Billah was seated on a throne of ebony, covered with pure silk cloth interwoven with gold. There were on the right of the throne 17 hanging branches and likewise on its left, made of the most splendid jewels, the brilliance of each of which exceeded the light of the day. None of them could be valued - so precious and priceless they were. The envoy and his retinue were stopped at a distance of 100 dhra (arms length) from the Caliph, the Minister Ali bin Muhammad bin Furat was standing before the Caliph, an interpreter stood by the side of the Minister, who addressed the interpreter who translated, in his turn, the conversation between both of them. When it was over, the Caliph bestowed on them a robe each and gave them 50 purses, each containing 5000 dirhams. They were then led away and taken round the remaining portions of the Caliph's Palace: on the banks of the Tigris, which flowed through the palace, stood elephants, giraffes, lions and leopards etc.



AGRICULTURAL GUIDANCE

ONE OF THE PILLARS OF

AGRICULTURAL RENAISSANCE

Agricultural guidance is the means and instrument for educating and instructing the farmer, and directing him to follow modern methods of agriculture in accordance with latest evolution in the world of agriculture to support production and to raise the living standard of the fallah, and also the living standard of the people in general. The basis on which rests the agricultural guidance is the collective information gleaned from Scientific research being carried out in our local Departments, or from the research and experiments by foreign institutions; and to transmit this information to the farmers in a simple way through easy language by means of tablets of guidance and printing of agricultural pamphlets and films. In addition, elementary explanations are given by Agricultural guides through personal contact with peasants, in order to make them understand and direct them to work for increased



output by applying modern methods. This activity in guidance covers all branches of agriculture from vegetables to grains and gardens etc. Below is given an abstract of some of the activities carried out by the Agricultural guidance during the last interval:-

1. IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING GARDENS.

The Agricultural guides working in all the Liwas of Iraqi Republic applied the process of improving apricots, pears, apples and citrus trees, and a considerable number of selected gardens belonging to citizens in most parts of the Republic. These processes consisted of cutting branches of trees in a proper way, the turning over of soil and manuring it, the sprinkling of trees with poisons to destroy insects in accordance with the special sprinkling programme carried out in the presence of the persons concerned in order to show them how to work so that they may be able to do it by themselves later.





The Agricultural centre at Baghdad has a Film Unit which photographs cinema reels for the guidance of peasants about the best methods of growing.



There is also a section for photograph where photos are taken of harmful insects and of the processes of improving and instructing for the purpose of showing them at Exhibitions and using them for the guidance of peasants and farmers.



The centre also contains a printing section of silk-screen for printing pamphlets, publications and large coloured advertisements for distribution in villages and places where improvements are going on.

A peasant girl happy over abundant crop of wheat: her parents follow the instructions of the Agricultural guide carefully and faithfully

Good crop is the outcome of good care: the picture shows the difference between two crops grown in the experimental farm at Abu Ghuraib.



2. SEED DISTRIBUTION.

The Agricultural Guidance Section in the Ministry of Agriculture distributes considerable quantities of various kinds of seeds of improved vegetables for the purpose of instructional experiments in the field, with a view to encourage the cultivators to grow them after they had themselves ascertained the benefits which they will thus enjoy. Such seeds have been sown in more than 134 explanatory units spread over different parts of the country.

3. Encouragement of berseem cultivation.

Berseem is one of the important vegetations for fodder, since it is very good food for the animals during winter. Besides, it is distinctly useful for the fertilization of the soil and for intermittent cultivation. The Agricultural Guidance Department has, therefore, taken great interest in this respect, and set aside 145 experimental farms, with a total area of 227 donums in 8 liwas of Iraq. As a result of these experiments, it has been noticed that peasants have a very great inclination to grow

berseem during these days.

4. Use of Chemical Manure.

Certain quantities of this manure have been distributed to Liwas for carrying out explanatory experiments under the supervision of the Guides and Instructors. Such experiments are at present confined to 3 kinds of manure:

Superphosphate
Sulphate Amonia
Patos.

5. Encouragement of Cultivation of some other important crops.

Among these are cotton, sugar cane and rice. The Department supervises in a special manner, the cultivation of cotton, and supplies farmers with pure improved seed in accordance with special permits; likewise, the Agricultural Guidance Section encourages fellahs, directing them towards the cultivation of sugar cane and rice. For all these crops there are special instructional experiments which are still being carried out by the Section concerned.

Opposite the modern building of 5 storeys, which houses Rafidain Bank at Baghdad, there stands an old building, constructed 600 years ago, with 2 storeys and a spacious courtyard. This is known as Khan Mirjan. The date of this edifice goes back to 760 hijra - 1359 A. D. It was built by Amin Ud Din Mirjan, Governor of Baghdad, during the reign of Awes bin Shaikh Hasan al Khani. The reason of its building was that the Governor was one of those persons who longed for good deeds and liked development. When he took over charge of Baghdad, he built a large school - i.e. Mirjan School - and a big hospital. In order to ensure the continuance of work and service for these 2 humanitarian institutions, he built this Khan, so that the revenues accruing therefrom could be spent on the school and hospital, in addition to the revenues derived from other Khans and many shops, which he endowed therefor.

As already stated, the Khan Mirjan consists of 2 storeys, the first containing 22 rooms and the second 23 - i.e. a total of 45 rooms. The length of the hall is about 30 metres, and its width 11 metres: the height up to the ceiling being 14 metres approximately.

In this building there are distinguishing and remarkable features, which show the degree of progress in the art of construction during that period of Iraq's history. The most marvellous method by the masons was the way they ensured the supply of natural light therein. Up to that time the construction of long halls would not permit of building



KHAN MIRJAN OR MIRJAN CARAVANSERY

windows in the long walls of the hall owing to the necessity of erecting many props and side rooms in these walls to support the vaults. They considered it enough, therefore, to open windows in the walls breadthwise - a fact which tended to reduce the quantity of light needed for the hall, especially so, if it was rather long. To remedy this defect, they had recourse to opening windows in the roof, but as this method tended to weaken the joining hold of the vaults and affect adversely their solidity and firmness, the architects responsible for the building of Khan Mirjan planned the construction of vaults in such a manner as would permit the opening of windows in the long walls - lengthwise - and dividing the vaults in equal portions in the shape of big arches, and then to fill up the vacuity between them by sloping or graduating vaults. These show us the origin of the modern vaulting in which iron girders or joists are used. By this method, it became possible for them to open sufficient number of windows in the walls which were built in the vaults left by the arches.

This contrivance used in making roofs provided the hall with a wonderful look - and also showed the complex process of its construction.

It remains for you to know that the Khan Mirjan is not a mere relic for spectators to see: it is at present used as a museum for Arab antiquities, after the Directorate of Antiquities salvaged it from the heap of relics of past centuries, and made it serviceable afresh.



BLACK ENAMEL

THE ART OF THE SABEANS

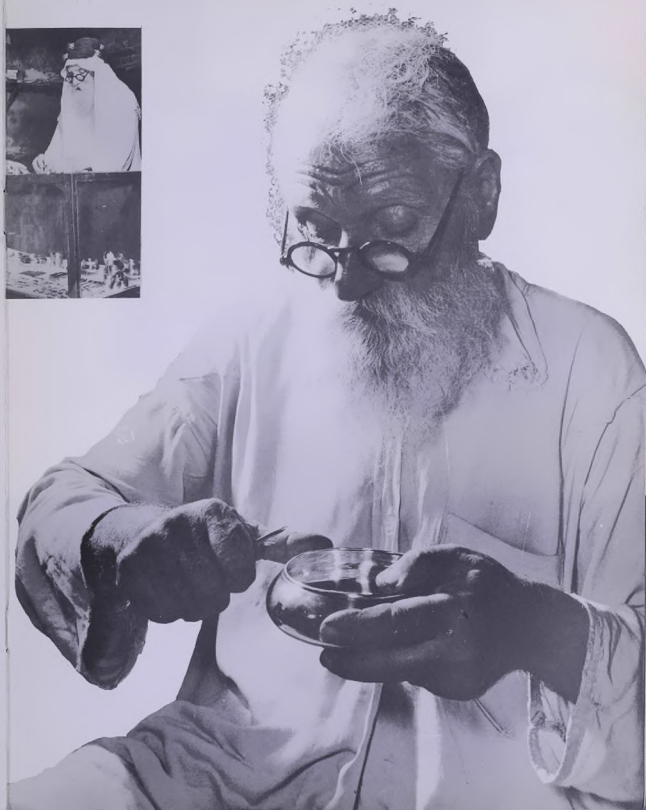
On the banks of rivers in the Southern region of our country, there is scattered a small sect not exceeding 10,000 persons. It is distinguished by its belief, special rites and religious language in which it performs its rites and beliefs. This is the Sabeans sect. Its history is a bit shrouded in ambiguity but what we know is that this is an ancient religion, its roots reaching far and deep into the history of religions. It is probable that its members, who live at present in the South of Iraq, have adopted their beliefs from the Sabeans sects now extinct; the circumstances of their growth in Iraq have, therefore, remained so far obscure.

The Sabeans of Iraq specialize in silversmithy and enamel work. The origin of this profession is very old: it was introduced into Iraq from Persia about 4 centuries ago.

The Sabeans preserved very eagerly their industry, so much so that it became their special secret: and no one could become aware thereof. As a consequence of the sect's anxiety to preserve their trade and their full occupation therein, it progressed swiftly in its evolution. Thus Iraq was the foremost amongst the few countries which surpassed and distinguished in enamel work. However, its world fame is due - in particular - to the work in black enamel.

The black enamel is an ingot comprising of silver, copper, lead and sulphur in fixed quantities. It is melted locally, and is formed into moulds. When the work is to be done on silver, the mould is ground until it becomes soft powder: it is then placed in a flask with water to enable it to stick with silver. As regards the painting, it is done as below :-

The article to be painted is engraved on a piece of silver, it is then grafted with sticking paste. Afterwards the piece is placed on fire so that the enamel gets fixed properly: it is then allowed to become cold and is later polished by special means. The enamel fixed in such a manner, is not affected by atmospheric, or by friction caused by its use, and thus acquires permanency for an indefinite period. Here lies the fundamental difference between the black and the coloured enamel (in which Europeans specialize) since the latter is less permanent, and weaker in resisting usage. The Sabeans turned their attention to the natural phenomena, and were inspired to reflect this in painting with enamel. There were flowers in their various forms, beautiful insects, and tame and ferocious animals, which



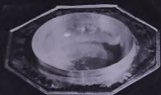


formed the subject of their artistic work. As regards decorations, their shapes are the outcome of the enamel worker's personality and depend on his own creative instinct. The many specimens of decorations which passers-by notice in the Sabeans' Market, are a clear proof of their excellence in this beautiful art.

The Sabeans have adopted enamelling as their profession by which they make their living. However, their profession did not minimise their zeal for the spirit of the art: it is a fact that they are more diligent in their work - as an art - than their wish to earn or derive material benefit therefrom. If the Sabeans love their land - with abundant water and do not forsake their

religious belief in order not to be thrown into competition with other compatriots, they followed - exclusively - this Iraqi art in a way which made its evolution possible; as also the attempts to introduce it to the outside world. Through their efforts and consistency, it acquired increasing fame, particularly among the Western powers. These unknown artists are, since 30 years, still persevering in making their contribution towards local and international exhibitions - with their exquisite and attractive enamel work, which drew the attention of visitors to those exhibitions. During 1931, the specialist silver smith and enamel worker Sakran Hirmiz - from the old Zahrun family specialized in this industry participated

in the International Exhibition at Paris, and exhibited a collection of rare pieces of silver enamel. Three years after this, an International Exhibition was held at Bari in Italy, in which another smith of the Zahrun family took part. In the second Paris Exhibition held in 1937, the artist enamel worker Asmar Hirmiz al Zahrun, along with others of the same profession, also took part. Then followed other exhibitions in which the Sabeen artists also participated: there was the International Exhibition at New York; and many other exhibitions in France, Italy and Germany. Through these exhibitions, the Iraqi Enamel work became known, and was introduced to wider circles of the people of Europe, America and other



nations of the world.

In conclusion, let us remind our readers that these participations in the field of international exhibitions, took place without the help of the responsible authorities in the defunct regime. These Iraqi artists did all this, without the least encouragement or material help from those quarters - a proof of the vitality of the Iraqi people and their love and eagerness for work, as is shown by this dear section of our people, e.g. the Sabeans.

NEWS IN PICTURES



1

1. On the 10th of October a graduation ceremony of the paratroopers was held at Rashid Military Camp, Baghdad under the patronage of H.E. the Leader Abdul Karim Qassim. His Excellency appears in the picture shaking hands with one of the graduates.

2. On 11th October a friendly football match was played between Army and Democratic Germany's teams at the Scouts Ground at Baghdad. In the picture appears General Ahmad Saleh al Abdi, Military General, greeting the members of the Iraqi team.

3. Sayyid Hashim Jawad, Foreign Minister of the Iraqi Republic, returned to Baghdad on Saturday the 29th October, after having led the Iraqi Delegation at the Ordinary Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. He appears in the picture just after alighting from the plane, surrounded by some Ministers in a happy mood.

4. On the 10th of October the Army Canal was opened. In the picture appears H.E. the Leader digging with his hand the first hole in this great depository.

5. On the 6th of October was inaugurated the Industrial Exhibition of the German Democratic Republic, and remained open till the 26th October. In the picture appears His Excellency the Leader cutting the ribbon in the opening ceremony.

6. President Farhat Abbas admiring Iraqi made clothes, during his visit to the Iraqi Pavillion at the Tunis International Exhibition, seen with him is Sayid Hikmat al-Choderchi, the Iraqi Charge d'Affaires in Tunis.



2



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6

NEWS IN BRIEF

● The Economic Planning Board has allocated ID. 40,000 for the construction of two primary schools and two kindergartens within the Erbil housing project. The Board has also allocated ID. 10,000 for the construction of a modern market and a casino in the said project.

● The Directorate General of Posts and Telegraphs will announce, within the next few days, a tender for the supply of three automatic exchanges of 5,000 numbers, each liable for expansion, at an estimated cost of ID. 230,000/- each.

● The Economic Planning Board has approved the allocation of ID. 50,000 to cover the expenses of expropriating a plot of land in Daura on which an up-to-date butchery, having all the necessary facilities, will be built according to Provisional Economic Plan allocated ID. 1.5 million for the building of this modern butchery.

● The Ministry of Works and Housing will study a project for constructing 600 houses in Zafaronyia for the Army workers who live in scattered places far from their places of work.

The Economic Planning Board authorized the Ministry to prepare sketches and specifications as well as the documents of tender for constructing the houses in question.

The competent quarters had finished a general expandable design (to consist of 500 houses in the future) for the said project. The present transport expenses of Army workers to and from their residences are estimated at about ID. 12,000 a year.

● The Economic Planning Board has initially approved of constructing a power project at Rutbah, and assigned the quarters concerned the preparation of the necessary specifications for buildings, machinery and power lines network, and to define the cost of the project. The board has also approved the awarding of the tender of Mahmudiyah water project at a cost of ID. 140,000/-, provided that the project should be completed within 18 months from the date the tender is awarded.

● The General Administration of Dairy Affairs has enlisted the

services of a Norwegian dairy expert to carry out economic studies on the production and industry of dairy, and on the import policy as well as for drawing up the regulation for the administering of plants and sales business according to modern methods.

The Administration is at present studying the subject of banning the import of butter, cream and dried and concentrated milk are valued at no less than ID. 600,000. The competent authorities decided to stop the import of butter and cream after it was found that local products of good quality were available.

The Administration of Dairy Affairs is annexing other machinery to its central plant in Abu Ghraib to ensure the availability of the Administration's products in markets following the increasing demand for same.

● Colonel Nasser Al-Janabi, Chairman of Iraqi Airways, has stated to the Iraqi News Agency that Iraqi planes will make one flight a week between Baghdad and Amman. Colonel Al-Janabi said that the first Iraqi flight between the Iraqi and Jordanian capitals would be made on the 31st of this month. The plane will depart from Baghdad at 8.00 a.m. and will return the same day.

● The produce of Zafaronyia Nurseries is currently on sale. It includes trees, decoration saplings, and plants in pots. Decoration trees will be sold starting 15th of December. The decoration trees ready for sale include trees, different decoration saplings, creeping plants, thorn and juicy plants, decoration grass, fence plants and flowers.

● The Ministry of Education has decided to open a higher institute under the name of the Institute for Preparing Teachers. Study at the Institute will be in the morning and evening and for two years. It will accept this year graduates of Secondary schools. The Ministry

also decided to open educational courses in each of Mosul, Basrah, Kirkuk, Dwanjiyah and Nasiriyah Liwas for the graduates of secondary schools. Each course will accept 100 students from both sexes.

● A news item from Belgrad states that the Iraqi Photographs Exhibition was opened yesterday in Sarajewo, Yugoslavia, by the Government representatives. A great number of Yugoslavs attended the Exhibition.

The Exhibition was held at Belgrad under the supervision of the Iraqi Ministry of Guidance on the occasion of the Second Anniversary of the glorious 14th July Revolution and in accordance with Cultural Agreement between the two friendly countries. A responsible official at the Guidance Ministry stated today that the Exhibition would be transferred to a number of European cities.

● The Mobile Health Exhibition organized at Ramadi by the Ministry of Health is meeting with great success. The Exhibition was opened there on Friday 21st October; it includes distribution of instructive pamphlets on health, delivering of lectures by the Doctors in the Liwa, medical detachments were organised, which have rendered health services to the people at Ramadi, Fallujah, Ana and Rutbah.

● The Government of Iraq has received an invitation to participate in the 6th Annual Book Exhibition to be held in Beirut between 21st and 26th November.

Most of the Arab countries, their cultural establishments and publishing houses will participate in this exhibition which will be held at West Hall of the American University at Beirut. The invitation has been forwarded to the Ministries of Guidance and Education and to a number of cultural and educational establishments, publishing companies and bookshops in the Iraqi Republic.



Mahmood Sabri

Born in 1927 at Baghdad, where he completed his Secondary education.

In 1945, The Ministry of Education deputized him to England to study there; he obtained his Diploma in Sociology during 1949 from the Loughborough College.

After his return from England he worked in various Government posts - the last being the Director of Exhibitions Band.

He studied art privately, influenced by the style of World artists - the prominent among whom was the French Artist Georges Rouel and the German Artist Kakaška.

He joined, after his return to Baghdad during 1950 - the Society of Pioneers and participated in all its exhibitions.

He took part also in local and International Exhibitions.

He believes that every artist has his own personal school and style in painting. He could be described as belonging to the modern, realistic and social school, which believes that the artist, who bases his work on his environments and surroundings, and their special reactions, can benefit from the diversities of his contemporary artists in the Artistic field.



