

Investigating the Cultural-Social Effects of the Expulsion of Iranian Nationals Living in Iraq before and after the Imposed War (case study: Ilam city)

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Abstract

With the rise of the Baath party in Iraq, the country's relations with Iran became tense, although some hostilities were ended with the mediation of Algeria in 1955 and the acceptance of the «Algerian Treaty», but the relations between the two countries were not friendly. When Saddam came to power, the grounds for war were prepared and caused the expulsion of more Iranians from Iraq. Many of them settled in the city of Ilam, where they became known as the Ma'awedin (returnees). In addition, the war caused a wave of migration from the war-torn cities to the city of Ilam. The present article tries to answer the question, what cultural, social and economic effects did Ma'awedin create in the city of Ilam? The findings of the research regarding the role and presence of Ma'awedin of Ilam in the imposed war, which was carried out with a descriptive-analytical method and using sources, documents and interviews with informants, 24 indicators in the form of 7 subcategories including; It showed support for the war fronts, defense of the land, assistance to the affected families, role in national unity and solidarity, recording of memories and experiences, role in post-war reconstruction, preservation of human and national values. Regarding the cultural effects of the presence of the Ma'awedin of Ilam in the imposed war, three sub-categories were extracted, including cultural diversity (5 indicators), preservation of cultural heritage (5 indicators), strengthening of language and literature (4 indicators). Also, three sub-categories of creating social networks (4 indicators), participation in social activities (5 indicators) and increasing social awareness (4 indicators) were identified for the social effects of the presence of Ilam's soldiers in the imposed war. Finally, for the economic effects of the presence of the Ma'awedins of Ilam in the imposed war, three sub-categories include; the growth of local markets (5 indicators), employment creation (5 indicators), and investment and economic growth (3 indicators) were calculated. As a result, it can be analyzed that although the Maaoudins had Iranian racial roots, but from a cultural and social point of view, due to various reasons, including living in Iraq and being influenced by Arab culture, their lack of political acceptance by the host country (not issuing birth certificates to them) and so on. At the beginning, they could not be attracted to the society of Ilam and their relationships remained within the group; but later this problem was solved to some extent. Also, from an economic point of view, Ma'awedin took over many technical jobs in Ilam and were able to be the source of many services in the field of trade and commerce, automotive services, food, etc.

Keywords: Ma'awedin, immigration, cultural effects, social effects, economic effects.

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