The Potential Return of Nationalism in Iraq

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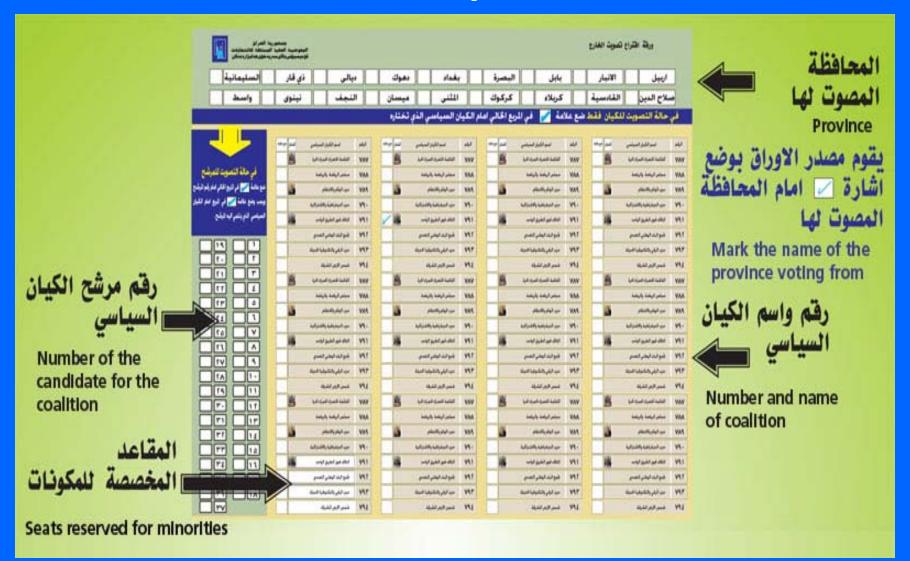
Bemidji State University

Why Did I Pick This Topic?

Iraq's Atmosphere Today

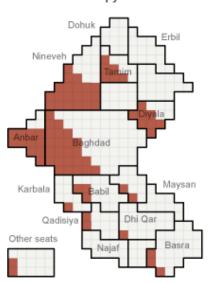
- Country that's struggling to become an emerging democracy
- Insurgent violence
- Strong ethnic tensions (past and presently)
- Since 2003 Iraqis have participated in several elections

2010 Sample Ballot



2010 Election Results

Iragiya



91 SEATS / 28%



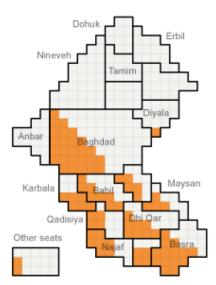
Avad Allawi

Saleh al-Mutlag

Tarig al-Hashimi

Ayad Allawi, the former interim prime minister whose party won just 25 seats in the last Parliament. emerged as a victor in the race. His largely secular Sunni and Shiite coalition had broad appeal because he built alliances with prominent Sunni politicians.

State of Law Coalition



89 SEATS / 27.4%



Nuri Kamal al-

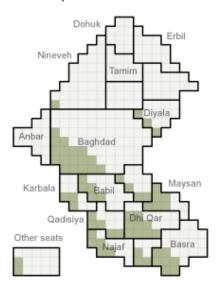


Hajim al-Maliki Hassani

Sheik Ali Hatem al-

Led by the incumbent prime minister, Nuri Kamal al-Maliki, and dominated by his Dawa party, which broke off from the Shiite coalition that had a commanding win in 2005. Mr. Maliki has denounced the results as fraudulent and said he will call for a recount.

Iragi National Alliance



70 SEATS / 21.5%







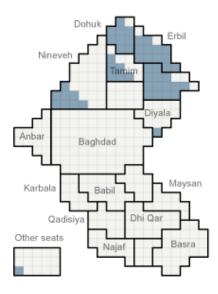
Ammar al-Hakim

Ibrahim al-Jaafari

Moktada al-Sadr

This successor to the United Iraqi Alliance, which had dominated the 2005 election but fell apart soon after, includes the powerful Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, political followers of the anti-American cleric Moktada al-Sadr, and several smaller parties.

Kurdistan Alliance



43 SEATS / 13.2%





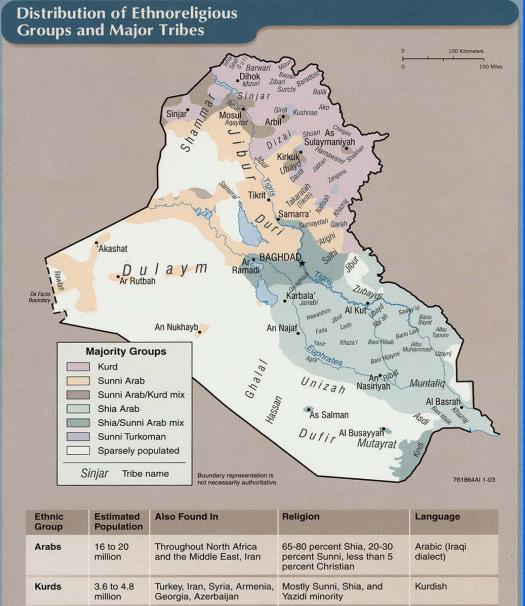
Massoud Barzani

Jalal Talabani

The two dominant Kurdish parties, the Kurdistan Democratic Party and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. formed a formidable alliance, but faced an opposition movement called Gorran, or Change, which itself won eight seats in the Parliament.

Iraq's Dominate Ethno-Religious Makeup

- Shiite Muslims
- Sunni Muslims
- Kurds



Ethnic Group	Estimated Population	Also Found In	Religion	Language
Arabs	16 to 20 million	Throughout North Africa and the Middle East, Iran	65-80 percent Shia, 20-30 percent Sunni, less than 5 percent Christian	Arabic (Iraqi dialect)
Kurds	3.6 to 4.8 million	Turkey, Iran, Syria, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan	Mostly Sunni, Shia, and Yazidi minority	Kurdish
Turkomans	300,000 to 800,000	Related to other Turkic peoples in Turkey, Azerbaijan, Iran, and Turkmenistan	Primarily Sunni	South Azeri Turkish
Others	As many as 1 million	Mostly Christians, Iranians, and other groups found in the Middle East	At least 50 percent Christian; Shias, Sunnis, and members of other religions account for the balance	Mostly Arabic, some Persian and other languages

Iraq's History of Nationalism and Three Attempts to Unify

- In 1920 Iraqi's were unified in protest over the British monarchy
- In 1958 Qasim became PM and sectarianism disappeared
- In 1991 Charter 91 was formed

Previous Research

• Muller (2008) examined the two most common ways of defining nationalism

(liberal nationalism and ethno-nationalism)

- Inglehart (2006) analyzed the effects of a foreign occupying force has on indigenous people
- Foreign Occupation and National Pride: The Case of Iraq; Mansoor Moaddel (2008)

Methods and Analysis

- World Values Survey (WVS)
- Survey was conducted in 2006 throughout the eighteen provinces in Iraq
- The data was analyzed with SPSS

Independent Variables

- Region of Interview
- War asked respondents if they would fight in a war for their country
- Shiite, Sunni, Kurd, and Gender are all dichotomous variables
- Age, Education, Income

Dependent Variables

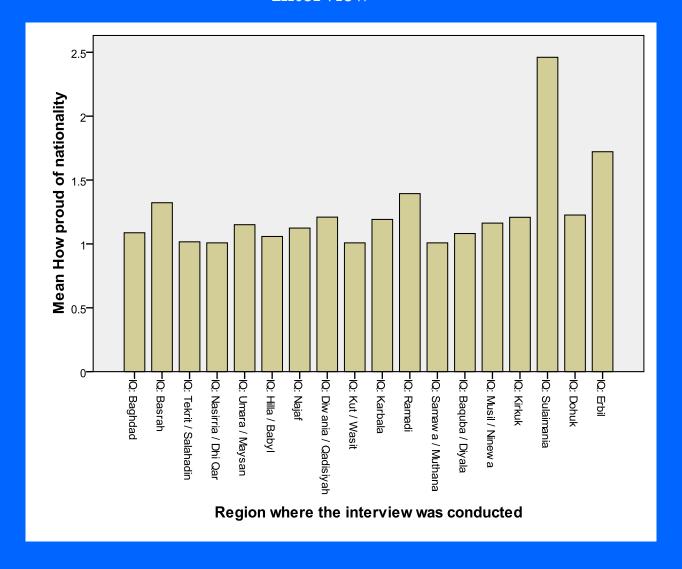
Nationalism Index

• Total-trust Index

Unit of Analysis

• Individuals

Individual Levels of Nationalism and the Region of the Interview



Iraqi Nationalism and if they would Fight in a War				
			Be willing to fight in war for your country	
		yes	no	Total
How proud of nationality	Very proud	651	1131	1782
		80.7%	83.8%	82.6%
	Quite proud	132	177	309
		16.4%	13.1%	14.3%
	Not very proud	15	24	39
		1.9%	1.8%	1.8%
	Not at all proud	9	18	27
		1.1%	1.3%	1.3%
Total		807	1350	2157
		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Multivariate Regression Analysis of Iraqi Nationalism by Religious, Ethnic, and Demographic Variables

Religious	Coefficient	t Score	Significance
Identity			
Constant	5.630**	51.989	.000
Shiite	115*	-2.100	.036
Sunni	111	-1.278	.202
Ethnic Identity			
Kurd	605**	-8.264	.000
Demographic Variables			
Gender	.045	.940	.348
Age	.000	569	.569
Education	009	894	.371
Income	.022	1.537	.125

^{*=} significance at .05

Adjusted R Square=.037

^{**=} significance at .01

Multivariate Regression Analysis of Iraqi Trust by Religious, Ethnic, and Demographic Variables

Religious Identity	Coefficient	t Score	Significance
Constant	4.403**	28.683	.000
Shiite	272**	-3.424	.001
Sunni	382**	-3.182	.001
Ethnic Identity			
Kurd	-4.52**	-4.281	.000
Demographic Variables			
Gender	.290**	4.181	.000
Age	.013**	5.108	.000
Education	.048**	3.436	.001
Income	.004	.184	.854

^{*=}significance at .05

Adjusted R Squared=.037

^{**=}significance at .01

Conclusion

- Wait and see if this newly elected government can stop ethno-religious conflicts that still threaten Iraq's stability
- Run analysis again when the new WVS data comes out to see if results are similar
- Watch the news for current events that effect the future of Iraq's democracy such as the battle over Kirkuk