



*Painting exhibition by Iraqi artist
Ali Talib
at the "Exhibition hall" open from 13-17 September 2004*

Ali Talib

Born in Basra, Iraq. Ali Talib lived and studied painting in Baghdad, Iraq 1961-1966. Following that he went to Cairo, Egypt where he studied graphic design 1977-1980. He worked as a teacher of Plastic Art in the Academy of Fine Arts, Iraq 1980-1990, as well as at Alyarmouk University in Jordan in the years 1991-1997. For the time being, he lives and works in the Netherlands. Ali Talib is also one of the founders of the Innovationists in 1965 in Baghdad. Years later, he and a group of his fellow artists also founded the Shadow Group in 1969. Ali Talib was awarded the First Prize Award at the Baghdad International Festival of Plastic Art, Iraq in 1986 and the First Prize at the Second Sharjah Biennial, UAE in 1995. Great number of his artistic work was exhibited in one man's shows in some distinguished galleries in Iraq, Kuwait, Jordan, Lebanon, and Bahrain since his early beginnings in 1964, as well as recognisable participations in group and collective exhibitions in Basra and Baghdad -Iraq, Cyprus, New Delhi, Canne Sur-mer and Paris - France, Casablanca- Morocco, London, Mussina- Italy, Egypt, turkey, Kuwait, Jordan, Washington DC - USA, Dubai and Alsharja- UAE, Finland, Lebanon, Vienna, St Petersburg, and the Netherlands.



*Solo Oud Concert by Iraqi musician
Naseer Shamma*

on 16 September 2004 from 17:30-18-30 in Room 114

Naseer Shamma

Born in 1963 in Al- KUT, a southern city in Iraq .He studied at Baghdad's Institute of Music and, in 1987, received a diploma in musical art. later he started in the Oud since he started his professional been composing his own music . Giving concerts in various parts of the world has become his main concern. He is now one of the most esteemed and prolific Oud musicians. In addition to holding concerts, Naseer is currently director of the Beit Al-Oud, Al- Arabi at Al- Harawi- Cairo, which was founded by him in 1998.



UN-HABITAT

REBUILDING IRAQ

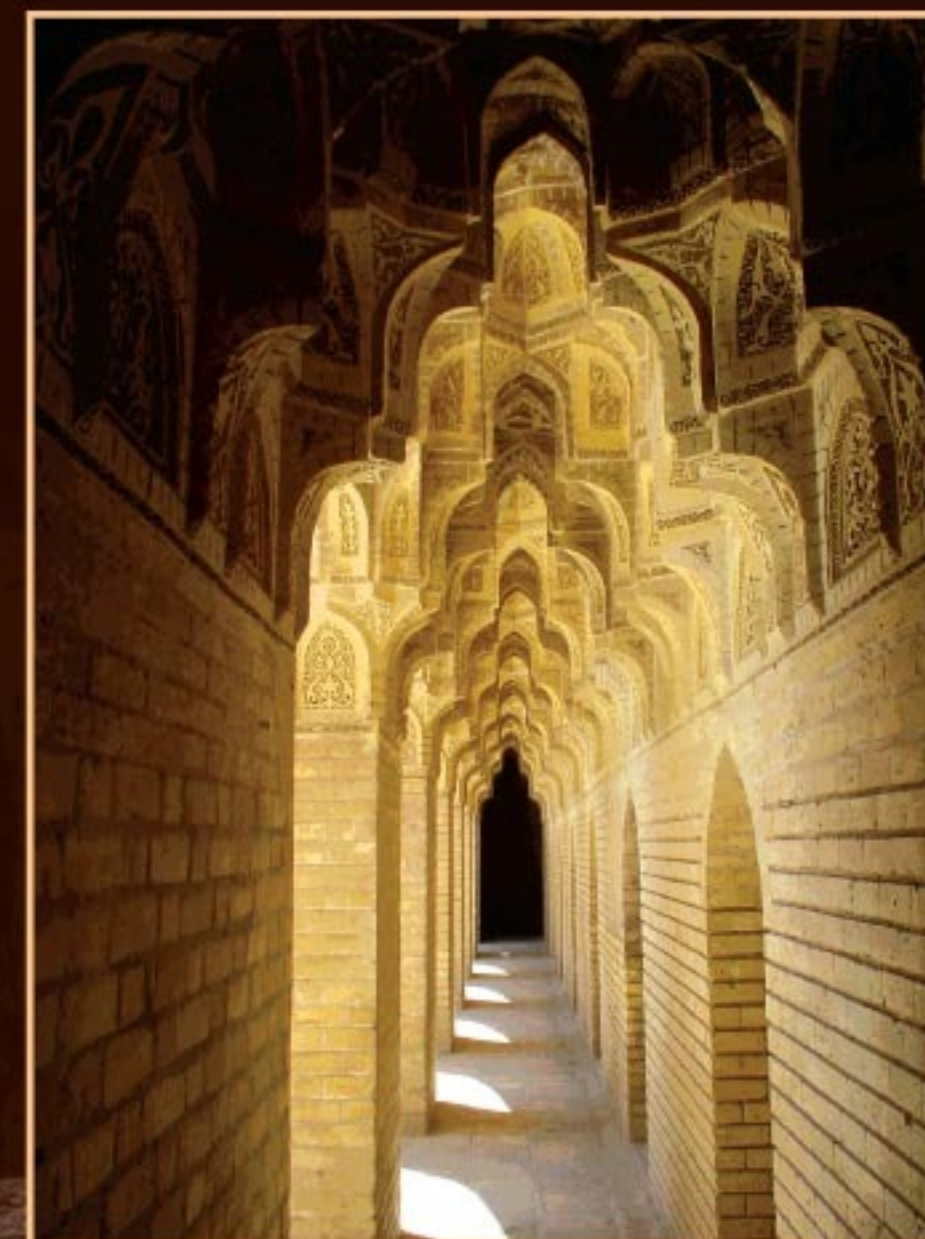


Photo by: Mohammed Al Shammarey

**Event organized by the High-Level
Advisory Panel for the Reconstruction of Iraq**

Barcelona, 16 September 2004

UN-HABITAT

United Nations Human Settlements Programme

The High-Level Advisory Panel for the Reconstruction of Iraq

UN-HABITAT, through its extensive work all over Iraq, has built considerable experience and knowledge of Iraqi cities, towns and their diverse communities since 1997. However, given the scope of the needs and in order to benefit from the highly qualified expertise available in Iraq, UN-HABITAT must obtain regular advice from prominent Iraqi personalities. UN-HABITAT has, therefore, established a **High-Level Advisory Panel for the Reconstruction of Iraq**, in October 2003.

The agency consults with Panel members on a regular basis on the immediate and long terms physical and institutional urban reconstruction needs of Iraq.

The Panel brings together high-ranking and multi-disciplinary Iraqi personalities, and the three Ministers of Construction and Housing, Municipalities and Public Works, and Planning and Development Cooperation respectively.

The Urban and Housing Rehabilitation Programme for Iraq 2004 - 2008 (UHRP)

The Panel's First Consultative Meeting (6-7 December 2003) discussed the Iraq Reconstruction Plan for Shelter and Urban Development as a framework for UN-HABITAT's future role in Iraq, and made specific recommendations for the formulation of a country programme. Therefore, UN-HABITAT formulated six interrelated programme proposals:

1. Strengthening the Urban Sector through Building Capacities of Local Governance and Municipal Management
2. Urban Poverty Reduction and Slum Upgrading
3. Employment Generation in the Construction Sector
4. National Housing Fund for Low-Income Groups
5. Shelter Policy Formulation
6. Establishment of an Urban Information System,

which the Panel reviewed and adopted at its second meeting (21-22 February 2004) as the US\$ 369 million **Urban and Housing Rehabilitation Programme for Iraq 2004 - 2008 (UHRP)**. The Third Consultative Meeting of the High-Level Advisory Panel (18-19 May 2004) focused on the funding and implementation of the UHRP. Several bilateral agencies attended.

The UHRP is part of the overall UN Strategic Plan for Iraq, where UN-HABITAT serves as the Deputy Task Manager for Cluster 4 on Infrastructure and Housing, while being a member of five additional clusters.

As of August 2004, the UHRP sub-programme 5 has started with an initial allocation of US\$ 5.9 million under the "Iraq Trust Fund". The UHRP sub-programmes 2 and 3 are under consideration.

The Japanese Contribution

Since the beginning of 2004, the Government of Japan has been the main contributor to UN-HABITAT's reconstruction work in Iraq:

1. Community Rehabilitation: Raising the living standard of poor citizens through housing, infrastructure, skills training, and income generation (US\$ 2,7 million).
2. School Rehabilitation: Providing a suitable learning environment through rehabilitating and equipping schools, and providing training and income generation (US\$ 6,1 million).
3. Educational Facilities Rehabilitation: Rehabilitating higher learning facilities including capacity building and employment creation (US\$ 17,6 million).

The **Federal Republic of Germany** is also supporting UN-HABITAT's Iraq Programme.

Rebuilding Iraq

Session organized by the
High-Level Advisory Panel for the Reconstruction of Iraq
at the Second World Urban Forum
Barcelona, 16 September 2004
Room-114

Agenda of the Meeting

15:00 Introductory remarks by UN-HABITAT (D. Biau, A. Shabou)

15:10 Segment One:

Chair: H.E Ms. Nasreen Berwari, Minister of Municipalities and Public Works

Key challenges in the reconstruction of Iraqi towns and cities

(Darim Albassam, Maath Alousi, Fadhel Mehdi, Sahar Rassam)

- Urban Rehabilitation: [strategic urban planning, participatory urban management, urban services, infrastructure and environment]
- Poverty reduction: [slum upgrading, housing finance, construction industry, employment creation, gender equality]

15:50 Segment Two:

Chair: H.E Dr. Farouk Al-Damluji, Minister of Reconstruction and Housing

New actors, new partnership and new policies

(Hisham Madfai, Assad Al-Khoudhairy, Amal Shlash, Jala Makhzoumi)

- Decentralization and inclusiveness [participatory governance, public/private partnerships, communities and NGOs, women' role]
- Policy framework: [enabling policy and legal environment, transfer of best practices, institutional reforms and capacity building, involvement of the private sector]

16:30 Segment Three:

Chair: H.E Dr. Mehdi Al-Hafedh, Minister of Planning and Development Cooperation

Mobilizing human and financial resources:

(Daniel Biau, Mahmoud Uthman, Fadhil Mehdi, Representative from Japan)

- Overcoming the reality of piecemeal financing [reconciling Iraqi and donor priorities]
- Mobilizing Iraqi expertise and international experiences.
- Adjusting implementation strategies to the security situation

17:10 Forward-looking conclusions

17:30 - 18:30 Solo Oud Concert by Iraqi musician Naseer Shamma.

Rebuilding Iraq

Description of event:

Presentations by UN-HABITAT's High-Level Advisory Panel for the Reconstruction of Iraq on post-war reconstruction, economic reconstruction (poverty reduction and job creation) and rebuilding civil society.

Name of organization:

UN-HABITAT High-Level Advisory Panel for the Reconstruction of Iraq

Description of organization:

The main task of the panel will be to provide professional advice to UN-HABITAT on the expected role of UN organizations, and particularly UN-HABITAT, in the current and future reconstruction plans of Iraq, and how UN-HABITAT might respond to the immediate and long-term physical and institutional reconstruction and urban development needs of Iraq.

Partner organizations:

N/A

Confirmed speakers:

N/A

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