



سخنرانی بین‌المللی

**Effects of the Persian Gulf war on the Environmental Health and  
congenital anomalies**



تأثیرات جنگ‌های خلیج فارس بر سلامت محیط زیست و ناهنجاری‌های مادرزادی

**Dr Mozghan Savabiesfahani**

**School of Public Health, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor,  
Michigan, USA.**

تاریخ سخنرانی : یکشنبه مورخه ۱۳۹۴/۰۸/۱۰ ساعت ۱۰ صبح

مکان : سالن شهید شهریار، سازمان مرکزی، دانشگاه زنجان

برگزارکننده : گروه علوم محیط زیست و اداره همکاری‌های علمی بین‌المللی

# جائزہ بین المللی ریشل کارسون (نروژ)

On June 3rd, the Deputy Mayor of Stavanger, Norway presented the 2015 Rachel Carson Prize to Dr. Mozghan Savabieasfahani. The award ceremony was held before a large audience in the city's Culture House. Dr. Savabieasfahani is an Ann Arbor environmental toxicologist. She received the Rachel Carson Prize for her research into Iraqi birth defects following the U.S.-led war on Iraq.



## Rachel Carson-prisen

"Man is part of nature, and his war against nature is inevitably a war against himself."  
Rachel Carson, 1963



BIOGRAPHY THE PRIZE PRIZE WINNERS ORGANIZATION SUPPORTERS NEWS ARCHIVE NORSK

**WINNER 2015:**  
**Mozhgan Savabieasfahani**

**Dr. Mozhgan Savabieasfahani has been awarded the Rachel Carson prize for 2015 for her intensive work to improve public awareness on the devastating effects of war on the environment and on public health.**



Mozhgan Savabieasfahani

Dr. Mozhgan Savabieasfahani is an environmental toxicologist, originally from Iran, residing in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. Her research focuses

In particular Dr. Savabieasfahani has brought public attention to the increase in levels of birth defects in Iraq and how these defects can be associated with chemical contamination during the 2003 war.

Dr. Savabieasfahani, originally from Iran, is an environmental toxicologist, based in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. She is a dedicated scientist who has published extensively in scientific journals, within the field of environmental toxicology. In 2009 her book "Pollution and reproductive damage: pollution induced cell-death and reproductive damage in fish and mammals" was published.

Dr. Savabieasfahani has watched the conflicts in the Middle East closely. She has a sound scientific approach when dealing with an extremely complex and sensitive research area, and her determination is strong to communicate her findings to the public. In 2014 she was travelling extensively in the U.S. to present work on the investigation of the epidemic of birth defects in Iraq.

"It is more than 10 years since the US-led war in Iraq was over, but there is still a very high frequency of cancer, neurological disorders and embryo defects," says Dr. Savabieasfahani. "Considering the US





# عراق تبدیل به ملتی آواره شده





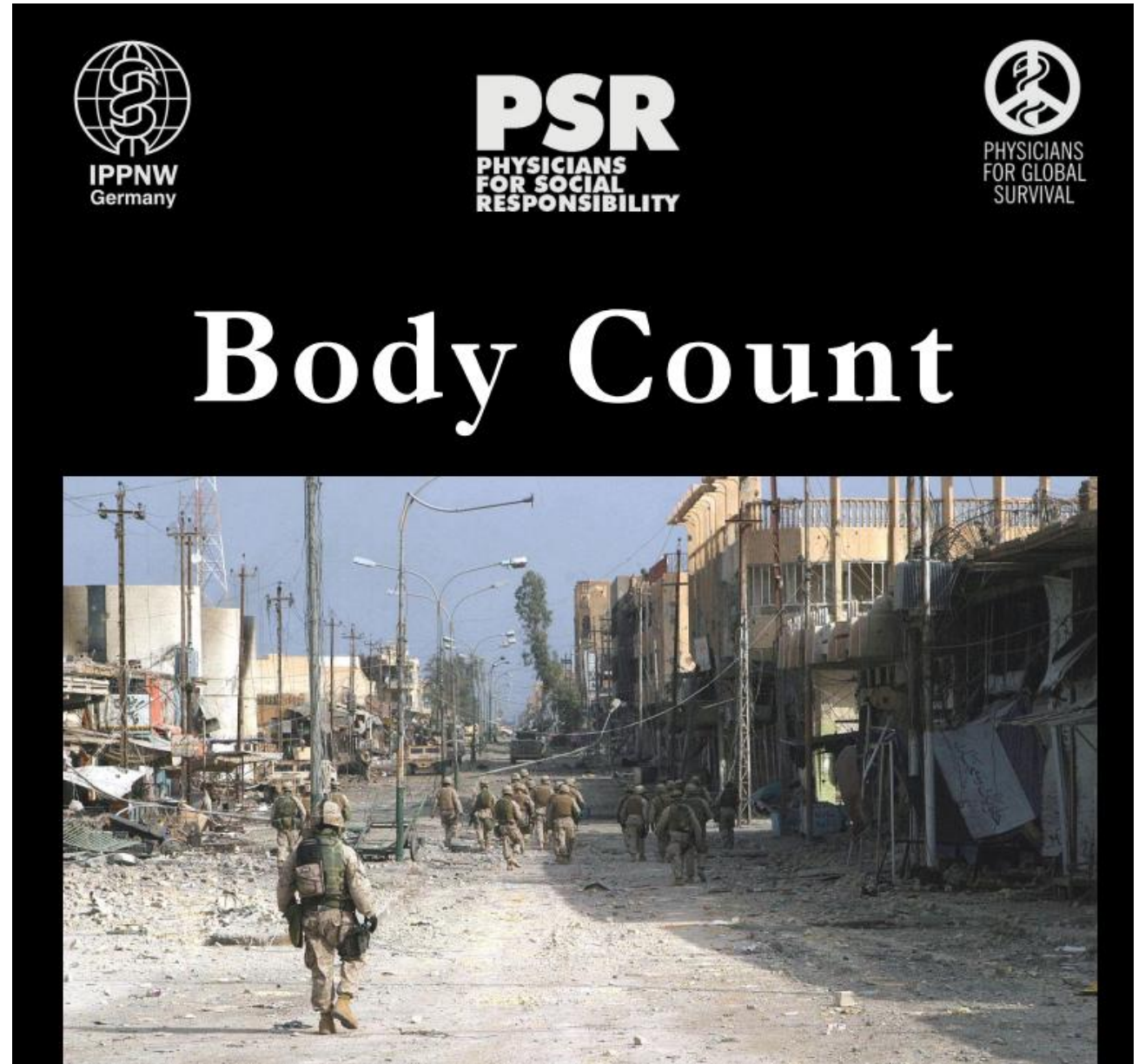
Dr. Samira Alanni, Fallujah General Hospital.



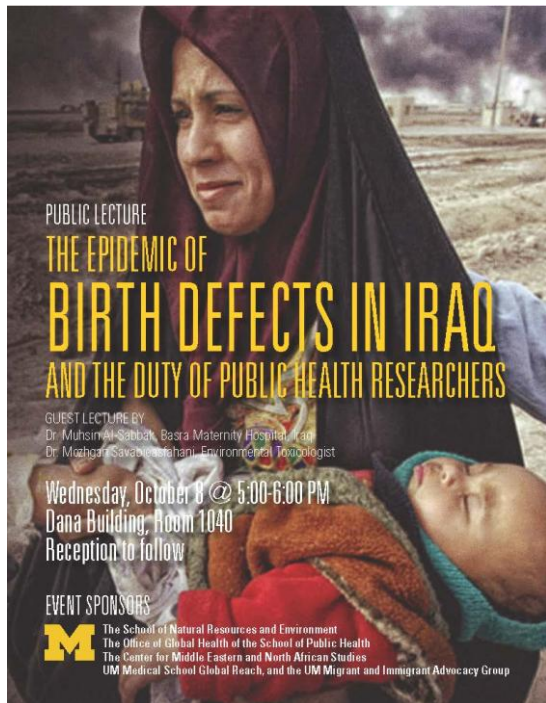
Dr. Muhsin Alsabbak and his staff at Basra Maternity Hospital.



“This investigation comes to the conclusion that the war has, directly or indirectly, killed around 1 million people in Iraq, 220,000 in Afghanistan and 80,000 in Pakistan, i.e. a total of around 1.3 million. Not included in this figure are further war zones such as Yemen ... this is only a conservative estimate. The total number of deaths in the three countries named above could also be in excess of 2 million, whereas a figure below 1 million is extremely unlikely.”







**PUBLIC LECTURE**  
**THE EPIDEMIC OF BIRTH DEFECTS IN IRAQ AND THE DUTY OF PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCHERS**

**GUEST LECTURE BY**  
 Dr. Muhsin Al-Sabbak, Basra Maternity Hospital, Iraq  
 Dr. Mozhgan Savabieasfahani, Environmental Toxicologist

**Wednesday, October 8 @ 5:00-6:00 PM**  
 Dana Building, Room 1040  
 Reception to follow

**EVENT SPONSORS**

**M** The School of Natural Resources and Environment  
 The Office of Global Health of the School of Public Health  
 The Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies  
 UM Medical School Global Reach, and the UM Migrant and Immigrant Advocacy Group

A Washington Global Health Alliance *Discovery Series* event

**BIRTH DEFECTS IN IRAQ: THE CONSEQUENCES OF WAR**




**Mozhgan Savabieasfahani**  
 Environmental Toxicologist  
 University of Michigan

**Dr. Muhsin Al-Sabbak**  
 Obstetrician  
 Basrah Maternity Hospital, Iraq

**"Environmental Poisoning of Iraq: Why Academics Must Speak Out"**  
 Friday, October 24, 2014  
 12:30 p.m.  
 UW Seattle - Turner Auditorium (D-209)  
 Magnuson Health Sciences Building

**"The Epidemic of Birth Defects in Iraq: Conversations with an Iraqi Doctor"**  
 Monday, October 27, 2014  
 Reception: 5:30 p.m.  
 Lecture: 6:00 p.m.  
 University Temple United Methodist Church  
 (1415 NE 43rd St, Seattle)

**For more information: ghrc@uw.edu**



**Cosponsored by:** UW Global Health Resource Center | UW Center for Global Studies | World Affairs Council  
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File Produced: September 25, 2014. To request disability accommodation, contact the Disability Services Office at least 10 days in advance at [ds@u.washington.edu](mailto:ds@u.washington.edu) or 206.543.6900; 206.543.6423/2779.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

**Global Health at Princeton**

Home » Events Archive » Lunch seminar "Epidemic of birth defects in Iraqi cities" - Mozhgan Savabieasfahani & Muhsin Al-Sabbak

**Events**

**Lunch seminar: "Epidemic of birth defects in Iraqi cities" - Mozhgan Savabieasfahani & Muhsin Al-Sabbak**

**Monday, Oct. 13th - 12:15pm-1:00pm**  
 015 Robertson Hall



Dr. Savabieasfahani, a native of Iran, is an environmental toxicologist based in Ann Arbor, Michigan (USA). She is the author of over two dozen [peer reviewed](#) articles and a book entitled "Pollution and reproductive damage: pollution induced cell-death and reproductive damage in fish and mammals" published by [DVM publishers](#) (Germany). She has published on the effects of plasticizers and pesticides on the female reproductive cycle. Pollution caused by wars and invasions in the Middle East has turned her attention to the effects of war pollutants on public health. Her research on war pollution and the rising epidemic of birth defects in Iraqi cities received outstanding global news [coverage](#) in 2011 and 2012.

Dr. Al-Sabbak is the Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Basrah Maternity Hospital. He will talk about his practice, his frequent observations, his challenges of working in a war-zone with rising cancers and birth defects.

**Audience:** This event is for students, faculty and fellows. **RSVP required. Non-WWS students:** to RSVP, email [chw@princeton.edu](mailto:chw@princeton.edu) by October 6th. **WWS students** will receive a separate [invitation](#) on the week prior to the event.

*This event is co-sponsored by the Woodrow Wilson School's Center for Health and Wellbeing.*

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 Last update: September 16, 2014

**THE GLOBAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

*In collaboration with*

THE INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
 and  
 SPHGSO  
 Presents

**"Investigating an epidemic of birth defects in Southern Iraq"**

**WHERE: Standish Room**  
**WHEN: October 22, 2014**  
**TIME: 12-1:30 PM**

**For more information**  
[jabu@albany.edu](mailto:jabu@albany.edu)

*\*Dress: Business Luncheon*

**"Investigating an epidemic of birth defects in Iraq."**

**LECTURE AND RECEPTION**

**October 17, 2014**  
 4pm lecture  
 5pm reception

**HSPH**  
 665 Huntington Ave  
 Boston  
 Building 1-1302

**Guest Speakers**

- Prof. Muhsin Al-Sabbak
- Dr. Mozhgan Savabieasfahani

Prof. Muhsin Al-Sabbak practices medicine and teaches in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of the Basrah Medical College and Teaching Hospital in Basrah, Iraq. His main research interests are in birthing and diagnostic laparoscopy. He has published numerous papers on maternal and fetal outcomes of infections during pregnancy and complications of pregnancy.

Dr. Mozhgan Savabieasfahani, a native of Iran, is an environmental toxicologist based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is the author of over two dozen peer reviewed articles and a book entitled "Pollution and reproductive damage: pollution induced cell-death and reproductive damage in fish and mammals" (DVM publishers (Germany)). She has published on the effects of plasticizers and pesticides on the female reproductive cycle. Pollution caused by wars and invasions in the Middle East has turned her attention to the effects of war pollutants on public health. Her research on war pollution and the rising epidemic of birth defects in Iraqi cities received outstanding global news coverage in 2011 and 2012.

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For information and visitor pass:  
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*The Institute for Health and the Environment, The Global Institute for Health and Human Rights, The School of Public Health Graduate Student Organization and the Center for Global Health, presents:*

**Global Health Speaker Series**  
 School of Public Health, East Campus, Massry Conference Center


**Tuesday, October 21, 2014 at 11:00 AM**

**"Investigating an epidemic of birth defects in Iraq"**



Presented by  
 Dr. Muhsin Al-Sabbak and Dr. Mozhgan Savabieasfahani

*Dr. Al-Sabbak is the Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Basrah Maternity Hospital. He has documented rising cancer rates and birth defects in Iraq and linked them to environmental pollution during the war in Iraq.*

*Dr. Savabieasfahani, a native of Iran, is an environmental toxicologist based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is the author of over two dozen peer reviewed articles and a book concerning the effects of various pollutants on the female reproductive cycle, including pollution caused by wars and invasions in the Middle East and the rise of birth defects in Iraq.*



**THE EPIDEMIC OF BIRTH DEFECTS IN IRAQ AND OUR DUTY AS PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCHERS**





Birth defects and childhood cancer rates have risen in Iraq after the 2003 invasion. Are military assaults to blame? Come learn what we know, what we don't know and how these doctors plan to take action.

**Featuring:**  
 Dr. Muhsin Al-Sabbak, Basra Maternity Hospital, Iraq  
 Dr. Mozhgan Savabieasfahani, Environmental Toxicologist

**Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> 11:30am**  
 Allan Rosenfield Building, 8th Floor Auditorium  
 722 W. 168th St.

**Reception to follow**











LEGACY OF WAR  
Rise in birth defects in aftermath of Iraq War

English | من نحن | إلى الجزيرة | ميمات صحية | خريطة الموقع | مركز المساعدة | تواصل معنا | اطلب معنا | ALJAZEERA.NET



العيوب الخلقية تراوحت بين عيوب القلب  
وخلل الوظائف الدماغية بجانب تلف الأطراف



مژگان صوابی اصفهانی  
متخصص سببشناسی محیطی

### The New Zealand Herald

Living with the legacies of war  
By Sarah Morrison



### American bombing of Iraq left legacy of deformed babies: Siddiqui

Published on Saturday October 20, 2012



### Mystery in Iraq, Alexander Smoltczyk

December 18, 2012



### Horrifying birth defects reported in children of Fallujah, Basra

Subodh Varma, TNN | Oct 16, 2012, 05:13PM IST



### Study shows high number of birth defects in bombarded Iraqi cities



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### Onderzoek bevestigt ernstige geboortefwijkingen in Irak

29/10/12, 08:59 - bron: IPS









# Basra





# Basra



# Baghdad





# غبار عراق سمی است

Navy Capt. Mark Lyles, Joel T. Boone Professor of Health and Security Studies at the U.S. Naval War College Center for Naval Warfare Studies, found that the dust in Iraq and Kuwait contains 37 metals that have been linked to everything from neurological disorders to cancer, 147 different kinds of bacteria, and several kinds of disease-spreading fungi.

**Kelly Kennedy, USA TODAY, 7:15 p.m. EDT June 23, 2014**

گورستان تانک ها  
و اشغال های نظامی رها شده در محیط



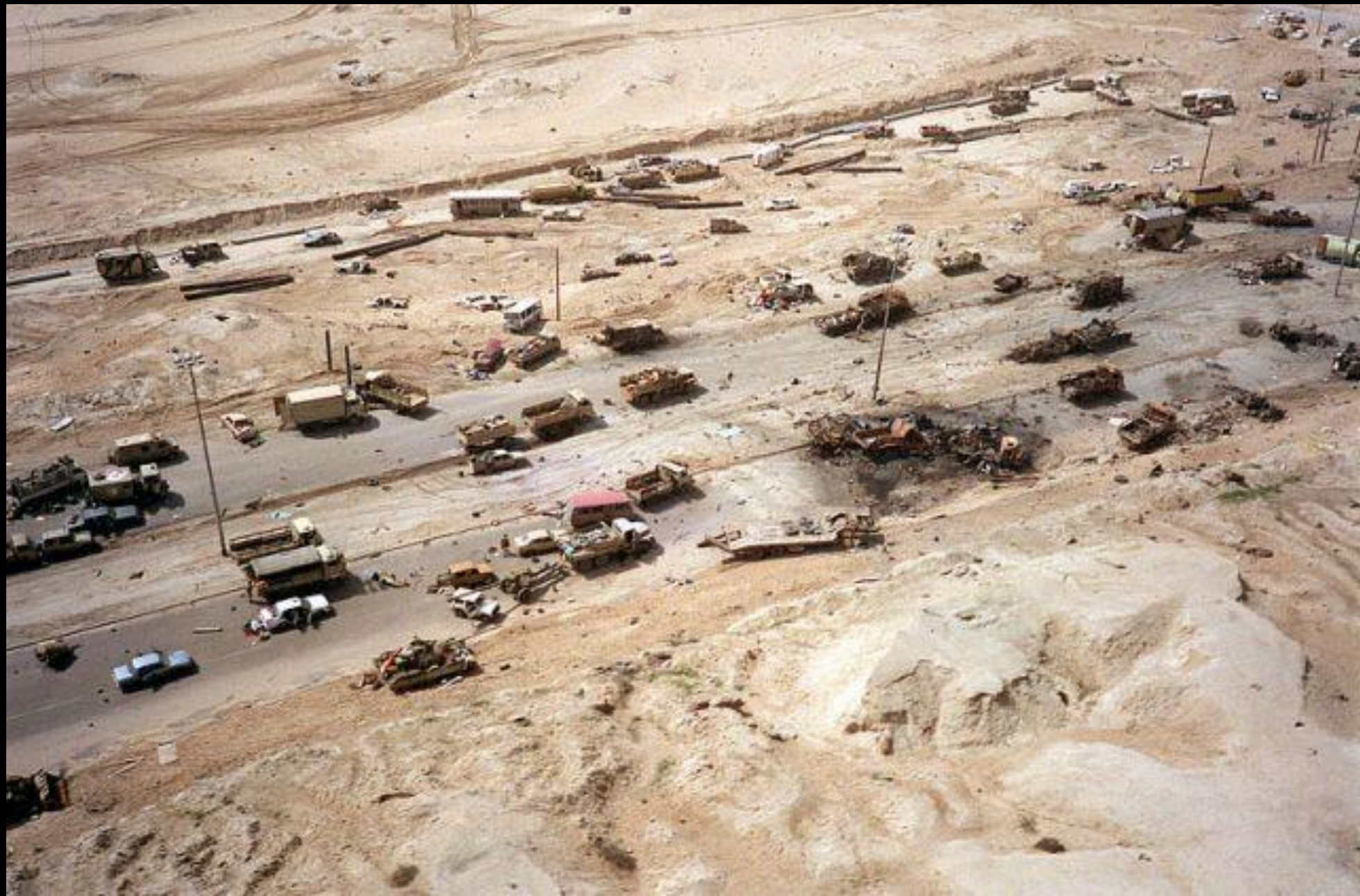
# پایگاه نظامی التاجی نزدیک بغداد





















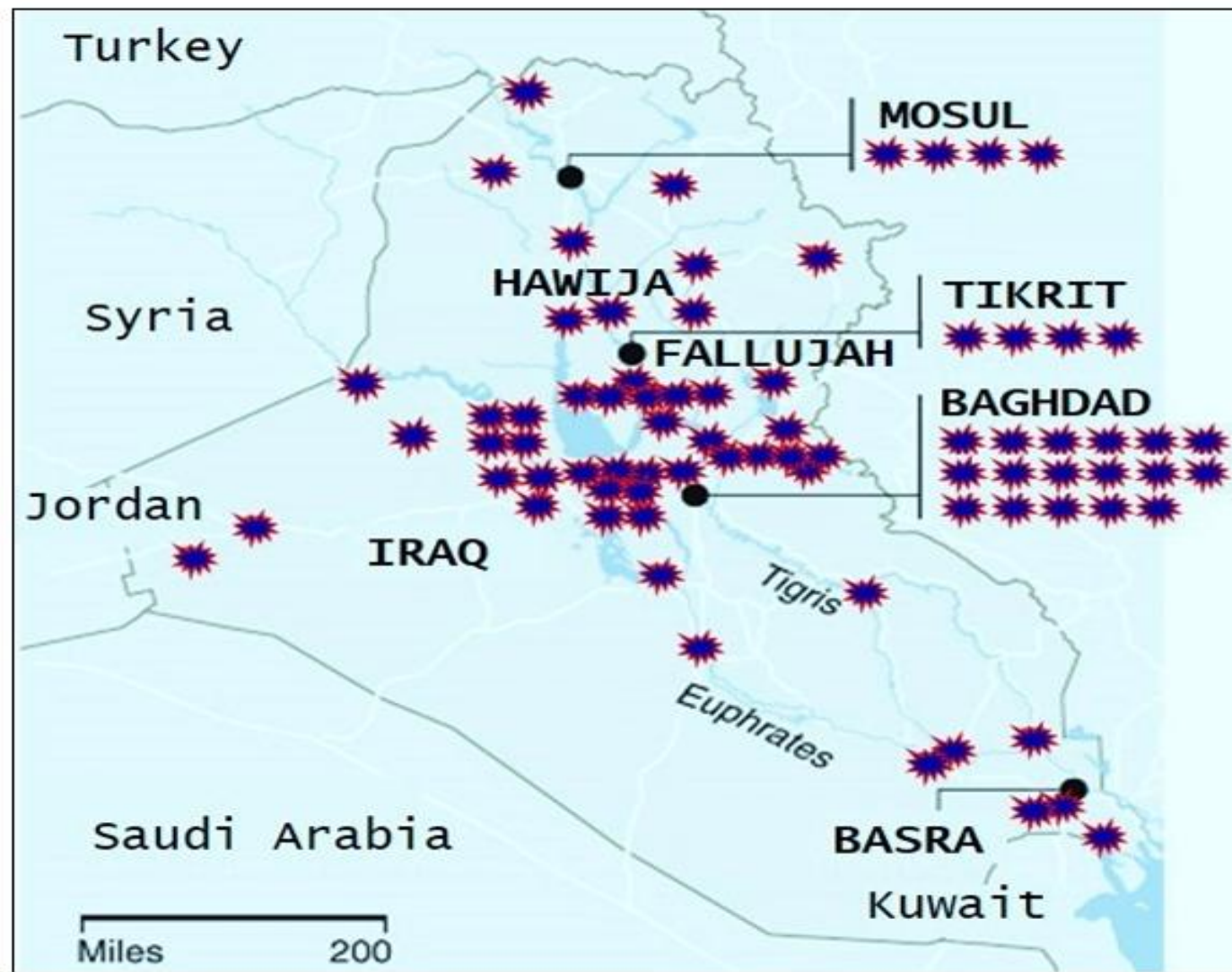




چاله های آتش  
در پایگاه های نظامی آمریکا



# تعدادی از پایگاه های نظامی آمریکا در عراق



























Air monitoring of one major U.S. military base (*Joint Base Balad*), near Baghdad, revealed Dioxins, Furans, Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Poly Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and Particulate Matter (PM).

**“...Cumulative exposure to mixtures of chemicals...by inhalation”**

Exposure to all, is associated with long-term health effects in adults.

Institute of Medicine, 2011 (192 pages)

**Long-Term Health Consequences of Exposure to Burn Pits in Iraq and Afghanistan**





کلاهک های شیمیایی تولید آمریکا

HOME SEARCH The New York Times

MIDDLE EAST

# The Secret Casualties of Iraq's Abandoned Chemical Weapons

BY C. J. CHIVERS

A controlled detonation of recovered mustard shells near Taji, Iraq, on Aug. 17, 2008. John Paul Williams



Soldiers in protective gear examine unexploded munitions near Camp Taji, Iraq, in August 2008. [Photo](#): The New York Times

SECTIONS HOME SEARCH The New York Times SUBSCRIBE NOW

MIDDLE EAST

## Thousands of Iraq Chemical Weapons Destroyed in Open Air, Watchdog Says

By C. J. CHIVERS NOV. 22, 2014

SECTIONS HOME SEARCH The New York Times LOG IN

MIDDLE EAST | Q. AND A.

# Investigating Abandoned Chemical Weapons in Iraq

By THE NEW YORK TIMES OCT. 27, 2014

Email Share Tweet Save

An investigation by The New York Times found that during the [Iraq War](#), American troops [encountered aging chemical weapons abandoned years earlier](#), and that some servicemen injured by these munitions received inadequate care. Readers submitted a range of questions for the journalists who wrote the story, including why the

PLAY VIDEO | 13:15  
Chemical Secrets of the Iraq War

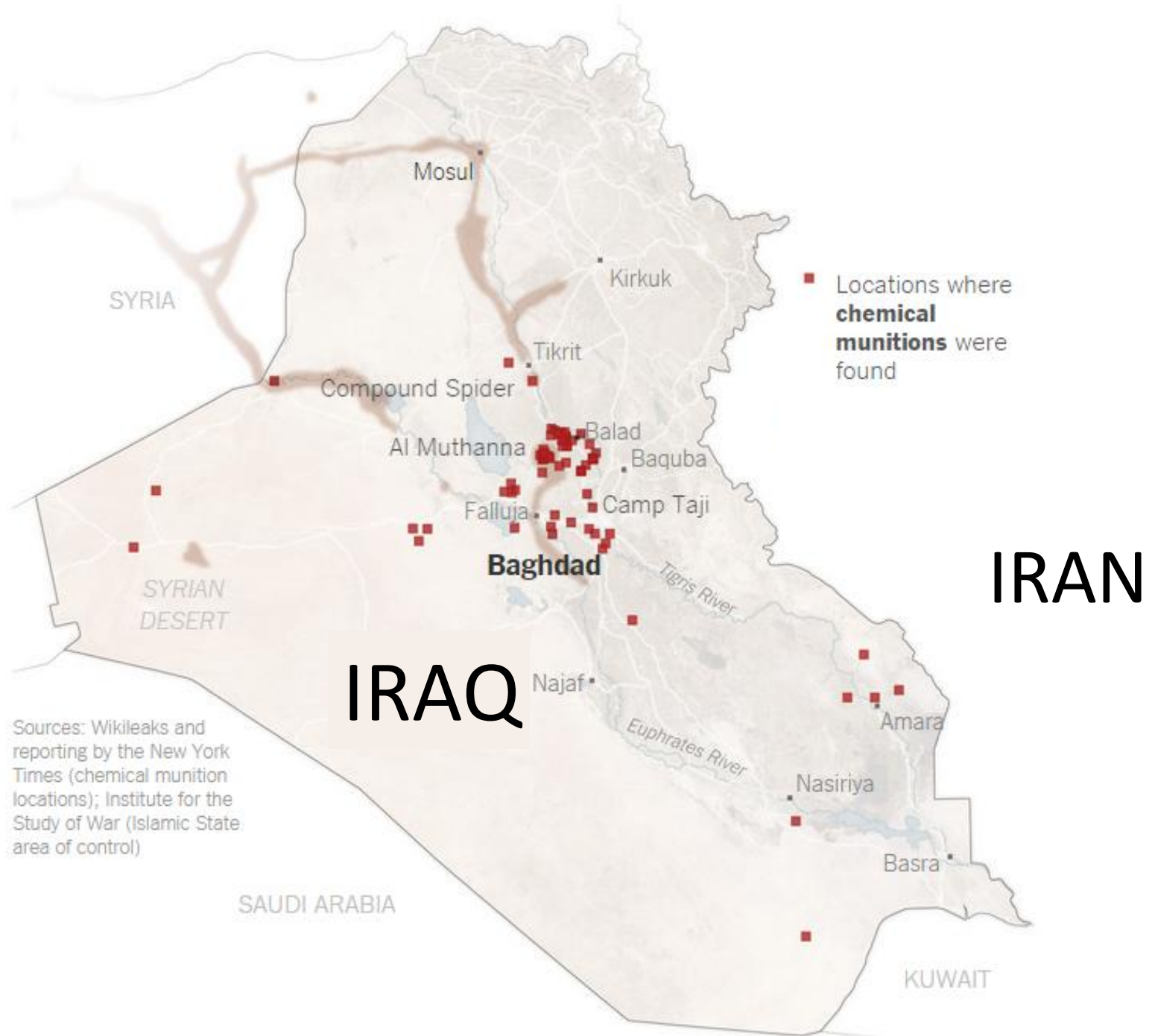
SECTIONS HOME SEARCH The New York Times SUBSCRIBE NOW

MIDDLE EAST 231

# More Than 600 Reported Chemical Exposure in Iraq, Pentagon Acknowledges

By C. J. CHIVERS NOV. 6, 2014





Sources: Wikileaks and reporting by the New York Times (chemical munition locations); Institute for the Study of War (Islamic State area of control)

“In all, American troops secretly reported finding roughly 5,000 chemical warheads, shells or aviation bombs, according to interviews with dozens of participants, Iraqi and American officials, and heavily redacted intelligence documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act.” *NYT October 14, 2014* پایگاه نظامی التاجی





آلوده گی به ار انیم "فرسوده"

# ۶۸۶۵۰۰ تن اورانیوم "فرسوده" در سیلندر های فلزی در ایالت های اوهایو، کنتاکی و تنسی انباشته شده







A 2007 publication of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) estimated that 1,000 to 2,000 metric tons of depleted uranium was fired during the 2003 war in Iraq.



## Royal Society warns of risks from depleted uranium

[Peter Moszynski](#)

[Author information](#) ► [Copyright and License information](#) ►

BMJ

Urgent attention must be paid to the health and environmental consequences from the depleted uranium used in many of the munitions fired in Iraq, the Royal Society has warned.

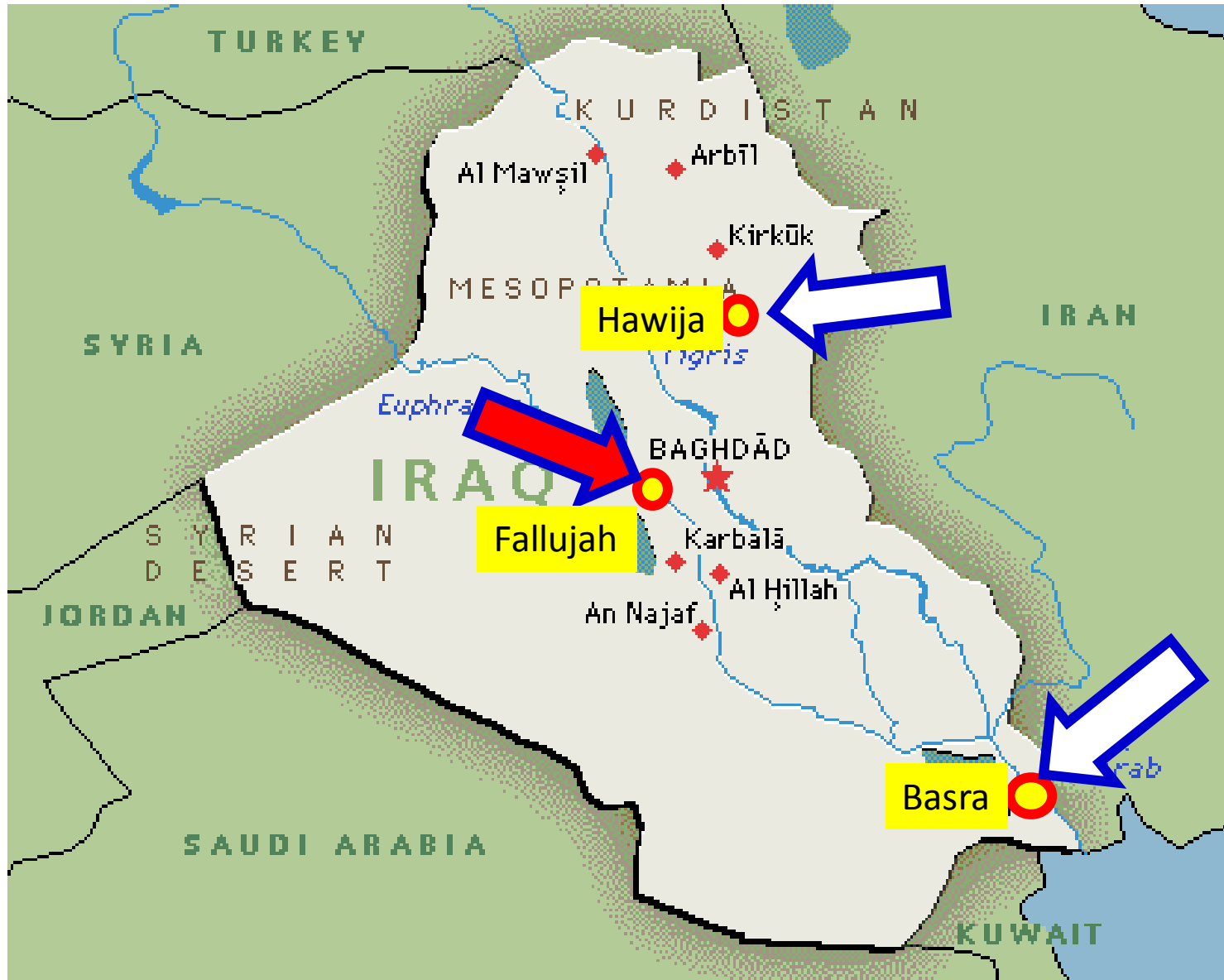
The society has publicly backed the United Nations Environment Programme's call for a scientific assessment of sites struck with depleted uranium weapons, the immediate distribution of guidelines to minimise the risk of exposure, and the need to clean up remnants.

The Ministry of Defence insists that the effects of depleted uranium are strictly localised. But after growing concern over the risk of cancer, testing is now available to all troops that served in Iraq. Previous guidelines recommended monitoring personnel only “where they have been exposed to depleted uranium or where there is a high probability that they have been so exposed.”

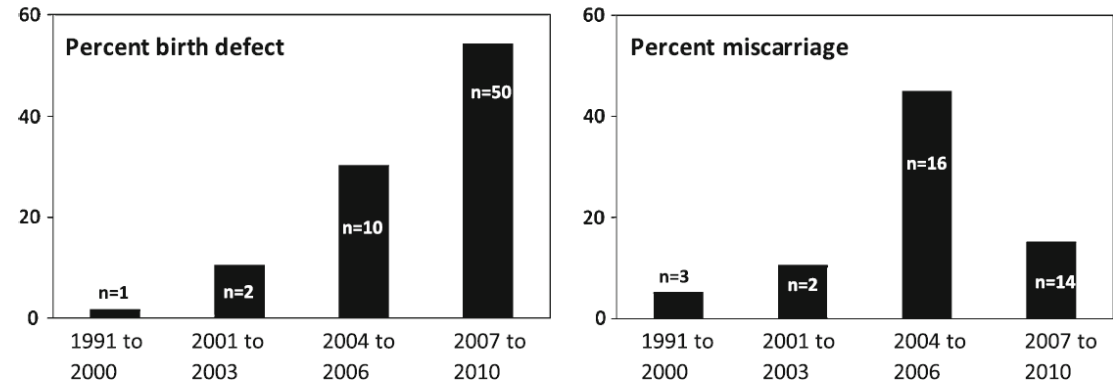
In its new study on Iraq the UN Environment Programme states: “The intensive use of depleted uranium weapons has likely caused environmental contamination of as yet unknown levels or consequences.”



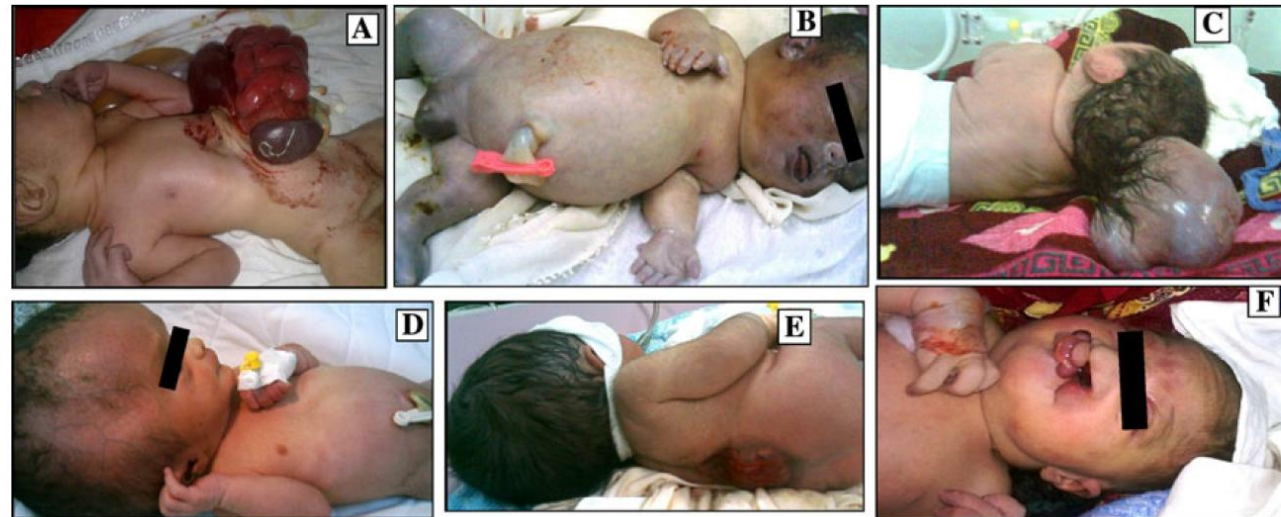
# الفلوجة



**Fig. 1** Percentage of birth defects and percentage of miscarriages among 56 Fallujah families who had come to Fallujah General Hospital for treatment or delivery between May and August 2010



Springer

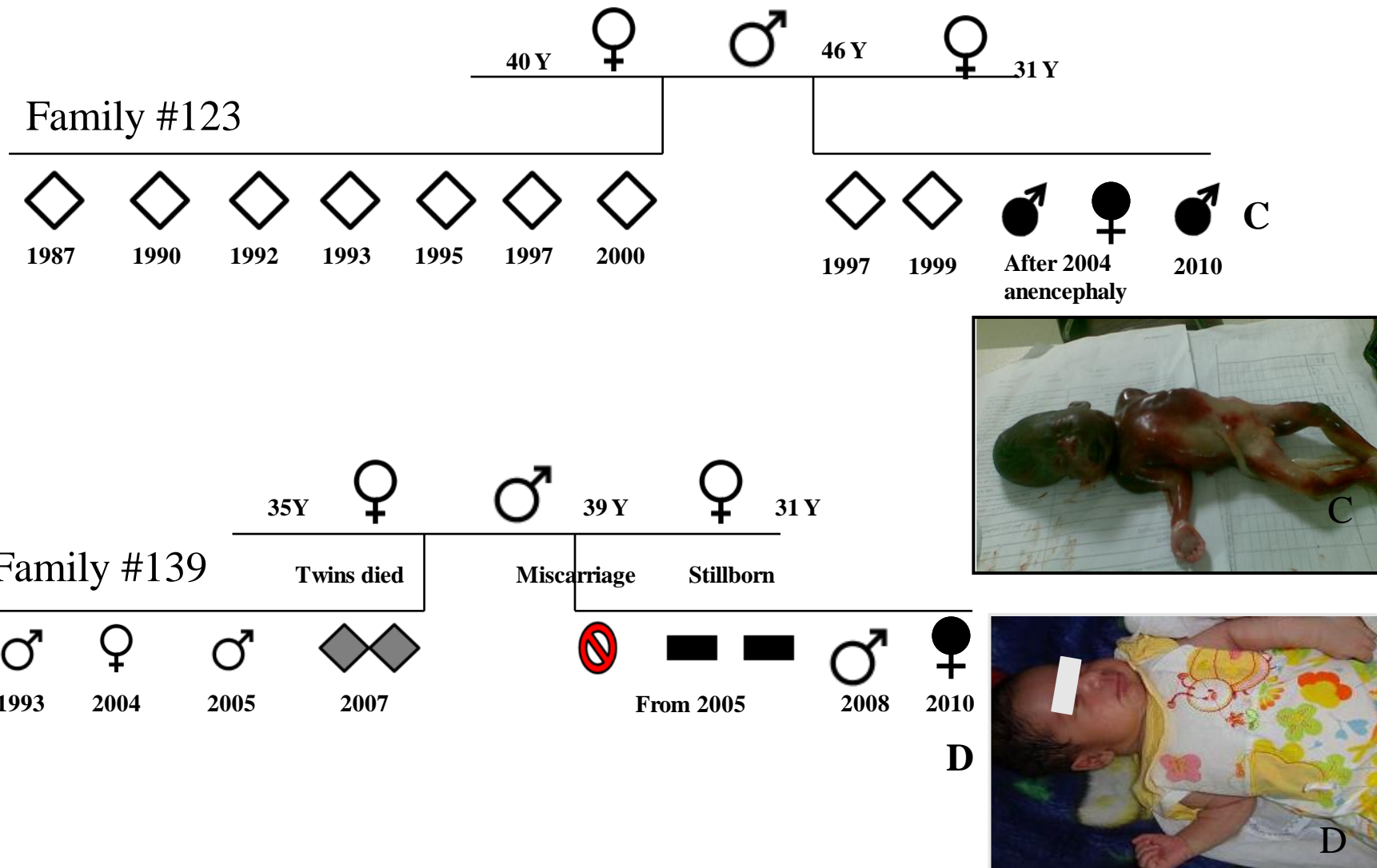


**Fig. 2** Photos of some birth defects reported from Fallujah General Hospital between May and August 2010. **a** Gastroschisis, **b** Hydrocephalus, **c** Encephalocele, **d** Macrocephaly, **e** Spina Bifida; **f** Cleft lip and palate

Folate-dependent birth defects



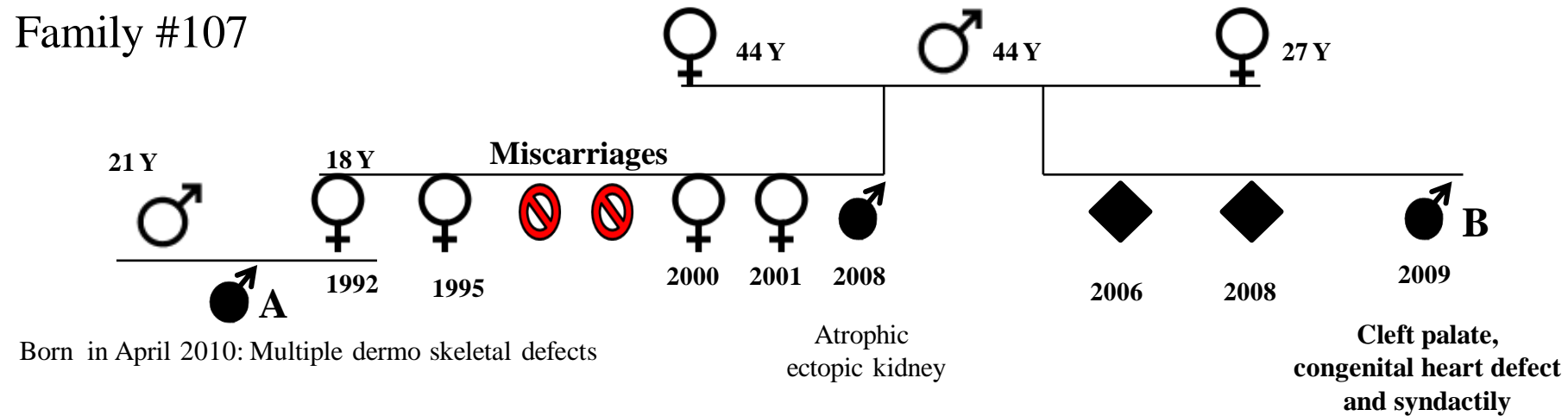
# Fallujah: Reproductive Family History



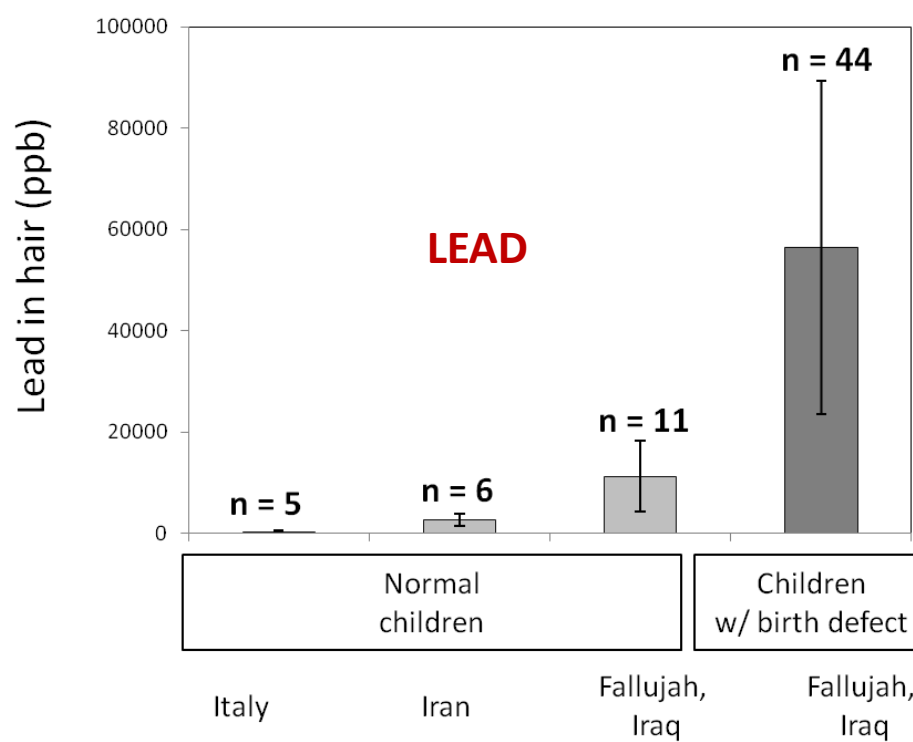
Ventricular Septal Defect

# Fallujah: Trans-generational Effects of War Pollutants

Family #107





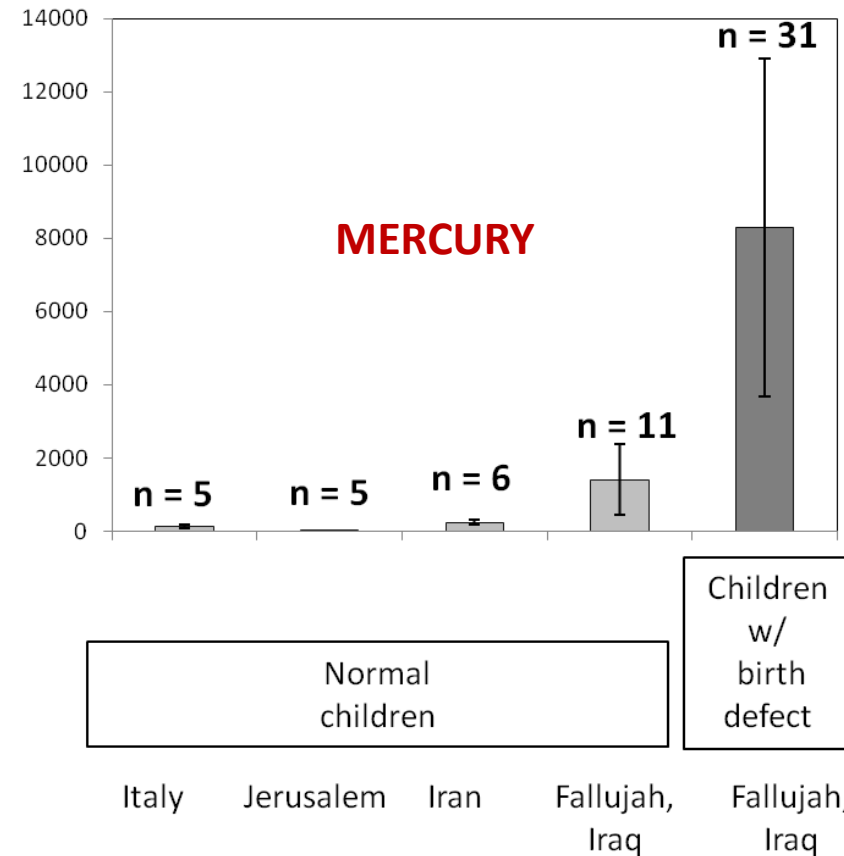


Fallujah children with birth defect have 5 times more lead in their hair than normal children from the same city.

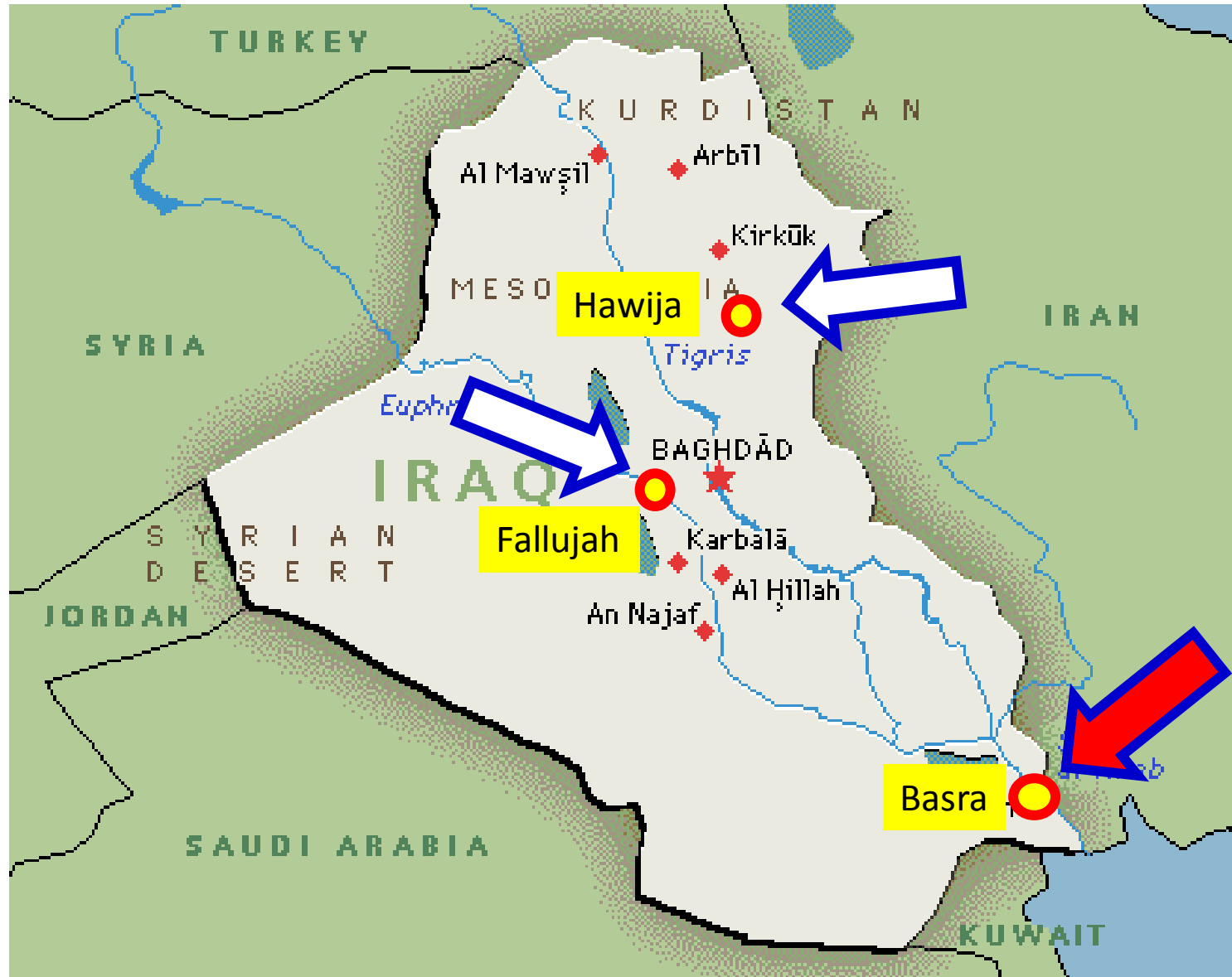
Fallujah children with birth defect have 6 times more mercury in their hair than normal children from the same city.



Mercury in hair (ppb)



# بصره





Muhsin AL - Sabak\*, Mawahib A . Salman<sup>o</sup>, Genan -AL- Mosawi<sup>o</sup>

\*M.B.Ch.B, CABOG, Lecturer; <sup>o</sup>M.B.Ch.B, CABOG, Lecturer; <sup>o</sup>M.B.Ch.B, DGO,  
department of Gynaecology, College of Medicine, University of Basrah Iraq.

**Summary** A prospective study done at obstetric unit in Basrah maternal & child hospital from October 1994 to October 1995 Sixty out of 10,200 studied new born, 0.58% were found to have congenital malformation among studied new born. 185 were still born with an incidence of 1.7% 25% of those showed congenital malformations 78% of congenital malformations occurred in new born whose parents had consanguineous marriage, further more, more congenital malformations occurred among low birth wt new born, among girls, among new born whose mothers were either thirty years of age or multi-parous. Significant association between congenital malformation & place of residence was observed (more in rural areas), CNS abnormalities was the most common congenital abnormality encountered.

**Introduction**

Congenital malformations are abnormalities of structure or form usually found at birth & that seriously interfere with viability or physical well being<sup>1</sup>. 40% of cases of congenital malformation occurs with no recognized risk factor<sup>2</sup>, 3.5% of all congenital abnormalities are due to maternal illness<sup>3</sup>. From numerous surveys during the past 30 years , 3% of new born were found to be affected by congenital abnormalities were discovered in month or years after birth<sup>3,4</sup>. The present study was under taken to find out the incidence of congenital malformations among new borns in our hospital which may reflect to some extent its over all incidence in basrah city & to determine factors that could decrease its incidence.

Correspondence to:  
Muhsin AL-Sabak, Department of Gynaecology,  
College of Medicine, University of Basrah Iraq.

**Patients and Methods**

This is a prospective study which was carried out in the obstetric Dept. in Basrah maternity & child hospital for the period from Oct.1994 to Oct.1995 there was a total of 10,200 deliveries; 60 of the new born were found to have congenital malformations, new born with low birth wt, very low apgar scor, family H/O congenital malformation & pre-term babies were examined thoroughly to look for CNS defects, congenital heart disease, alimentary system defects, skeletal & skin abnormalities & special features going with trisomy 21,18,13. The examination was carried out in the delivery room or in the theater. Most cases with congenital anomalies were admitted to the intensive care baby unit for further investigations while others were sent to a neurosurgeon most cases however were lost for follow up, no post mortem study was,

Alsabbak M, Mawahib A, Almosawi G (1997) - Incidence of Congenital Fetal Anomaly in Basrah Maternity Hospital (BMH). Basrah Med J 3: 59-60

Study reports: between October 1994 and October 1995 the number of birth defects were

**1.37 per 1000**

live births in BMH

Generated by CamScanner from intsig.com

# Birth defects per 1000 live births at Basra Maternity Hospital, 2003 to 2011

YEAR	Central Nervous System Defects			Other defects				
	Hydrocephalus	Anencephaly	Spina Bifida	Limb deformity	Omphalocele	Short extremities	Multiple defects	Total
2003	3	5	4	3	2	2	4	23
2004	3	6	8	3	4	3	8	34
2005	3	4	5	5	4	4	9	34
2006	6	8	8	3	5	2	12	44
2007	6	8	6	3	4	3	15	45
2008	2	8	4	1	3	2	15	35
2009	6	8	7	4	4	4	15	48
2010	5	4	3	3	2	2	10	29
2011	4	6	6	4	2	1	14	37

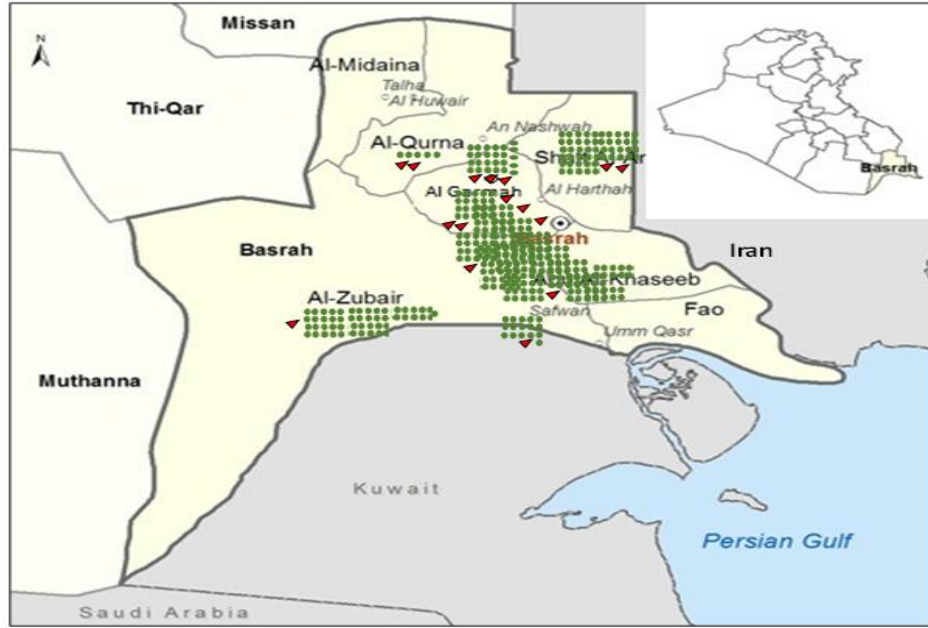


Year	Total number of deliveries	Total number of birth defects	Total number of birth defects per 1000 live births	Smoking during pregnancy	Drinking during pregnancy
1989	7632	16	2.09	233	none
1990	8722	18	2.06	477	2
<b>2006</b>	<b>16641</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>30.82</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>none</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>17015</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>33.85</b>	<b>1033</b>	<b>none</b>

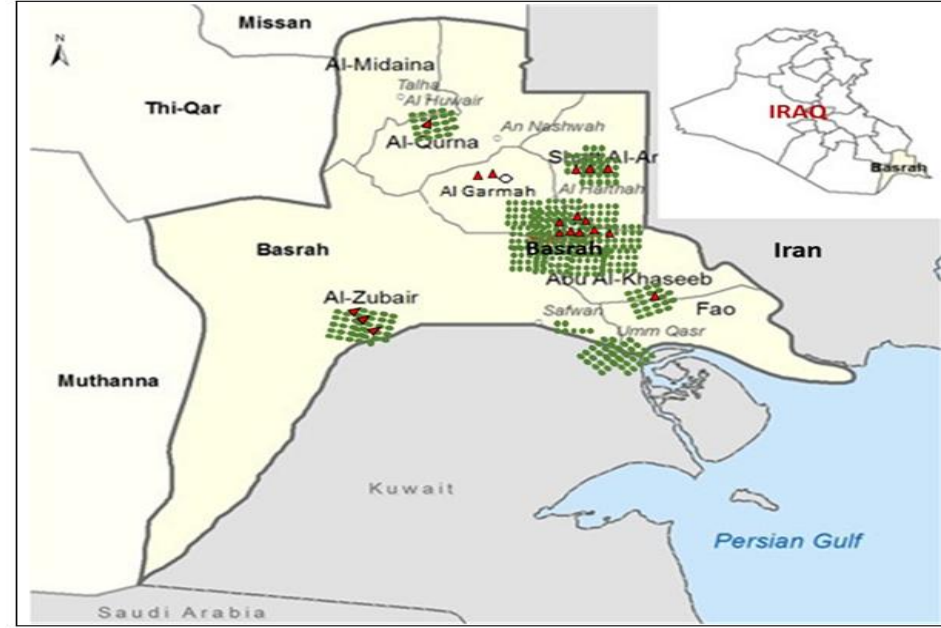


Year	Total No. birth defects	Types of birth defects								Others	
		Central nervous system defects								Congenital ichthyosis	Congenital metabolic disorders
		Anen cephalx	Hydro cephalus	Exomphalos	cleft lip & palate	Syndactyly & polydactyly	Extremity deformities	Congenital heart defects	Multiple birth defects		
1989	16	2	3	3	2	2	2	0	2 Potter's syndrome and Trisomy 21	0	0
1990	18	3	4	2	0	0	1	2	6	0	0
<b>2006</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>11</b>

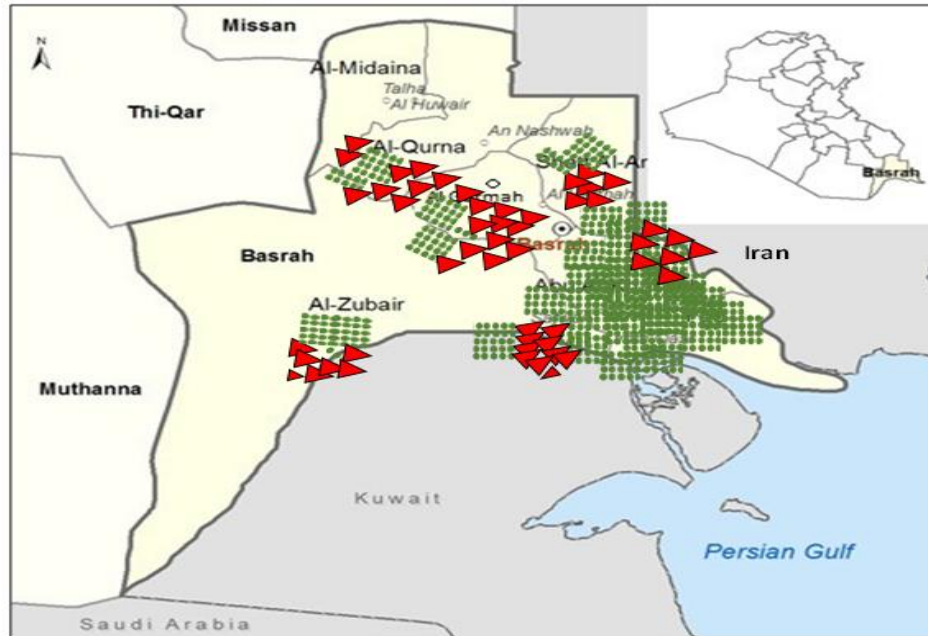
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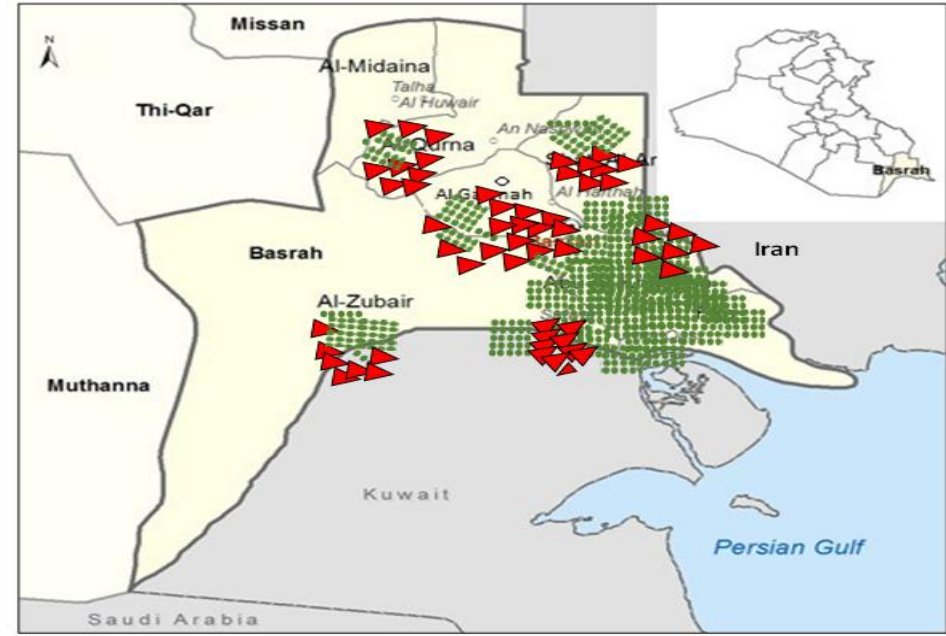
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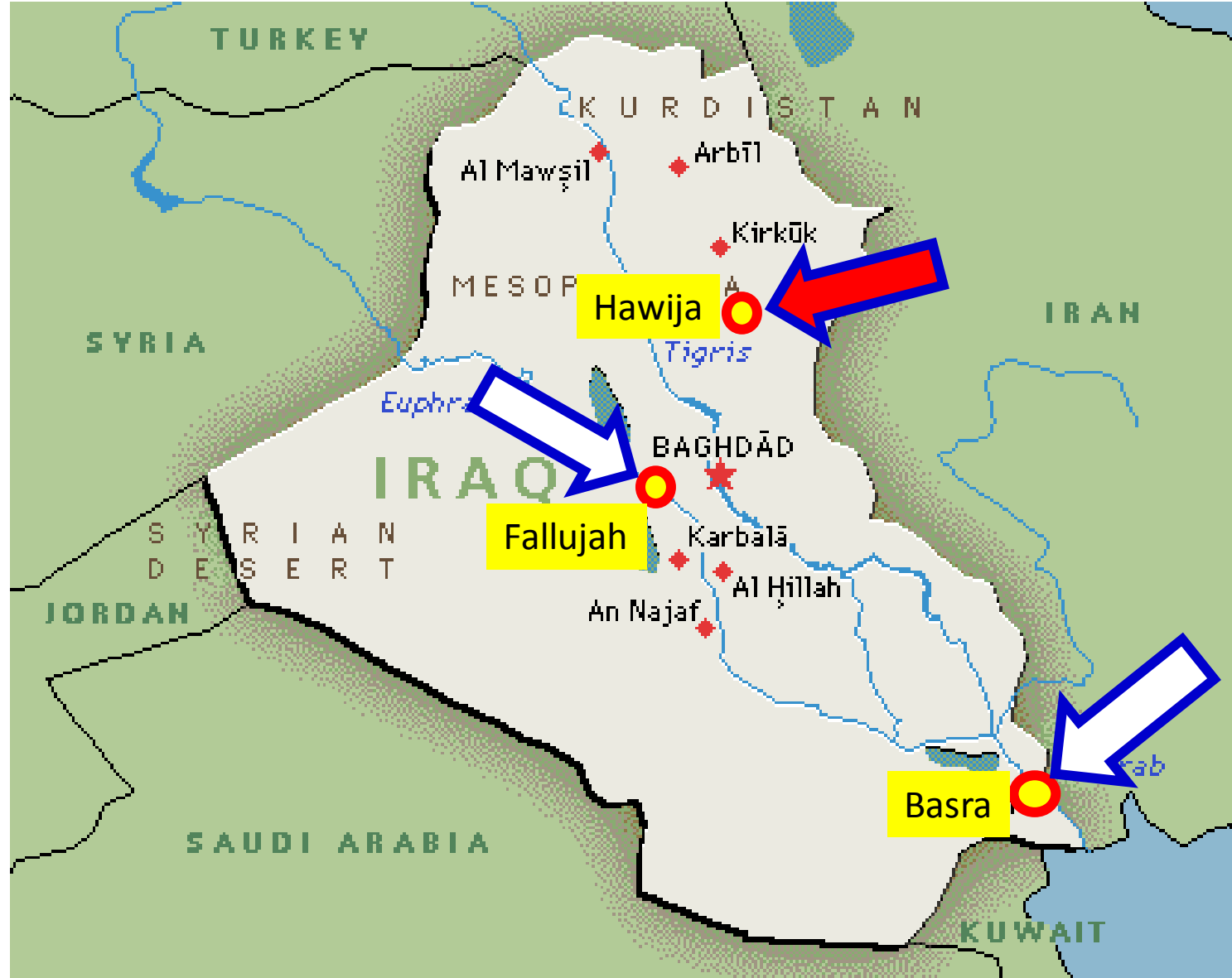
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# الحويجة





## Elevated titanium levels in Iraqi children with neurodevelopmental disorders echo findings in occupation soldiers

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S. Dastgiri • M. Al-Sabbak

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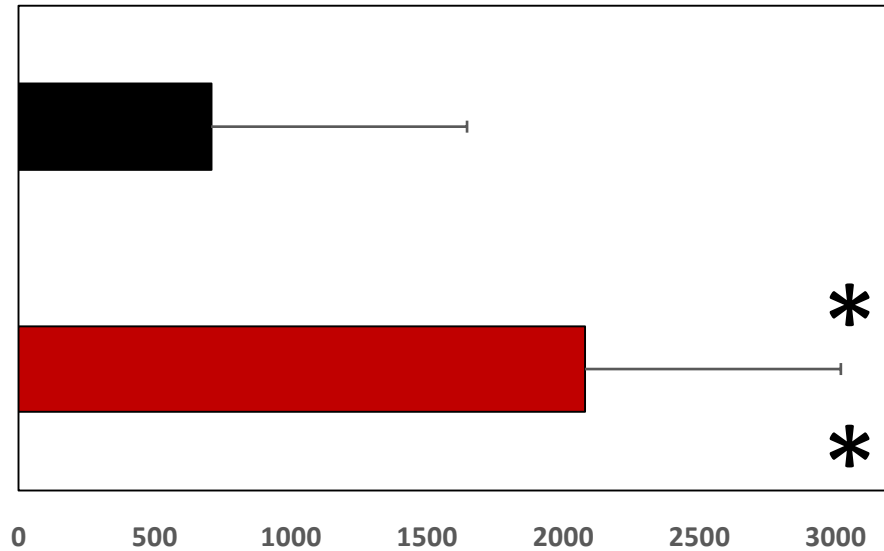
**Abstract** Anthropogenic release of pollutants into the environment is especially harmful to growing fetuses and young children. These populations are at an increased risk of damage because exposure to pollutants

living near the Iraqi border ( $2080 \pm 940$  vs  $707 \pm 421$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ ,  $p < 0.0001$ ). Magnesium was 1.7 times higher in Hawija children compared to Iranian children ( $115,763 \pm 118,155$  vs  $67,650 \pm 46,729$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ ). In sam-

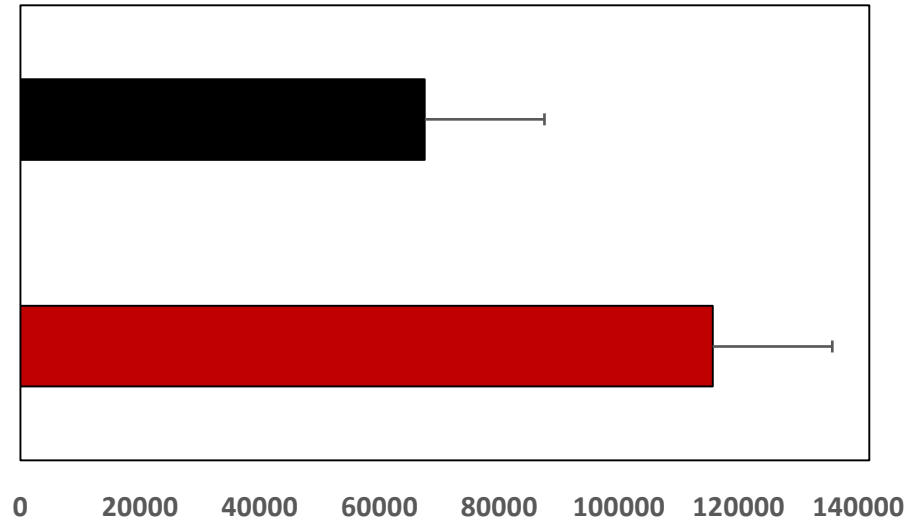






# Hair Ti and Mg: Hawija vs Khoram Shahr



Titanium (Ti)



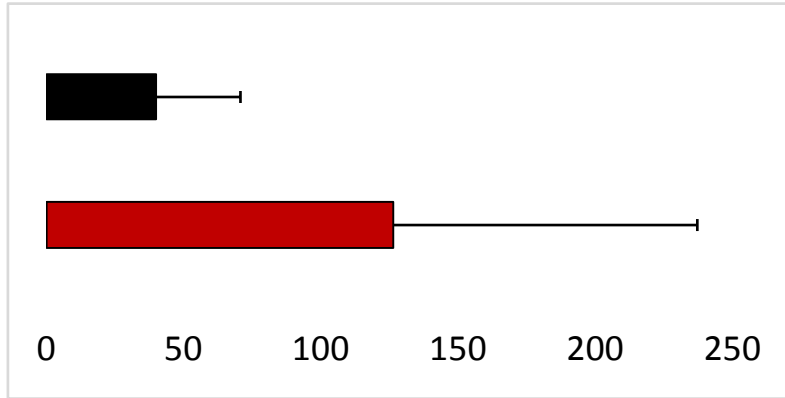
Magnesium (Mg)

-  Khoram Shahr children
  -  Hawija Children
- µg/kg,  $p < 0.0001$

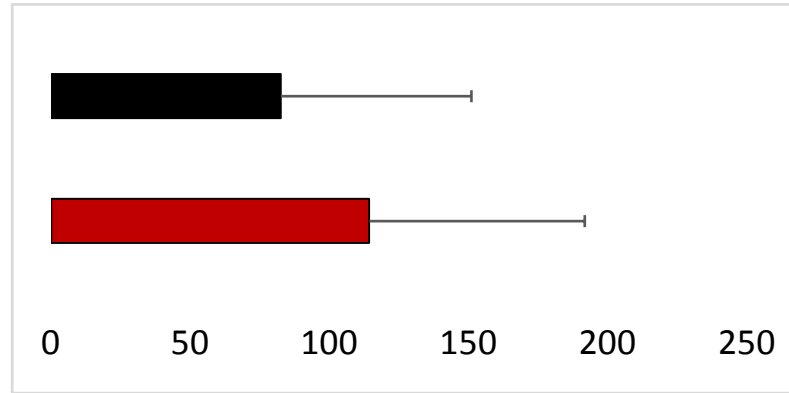




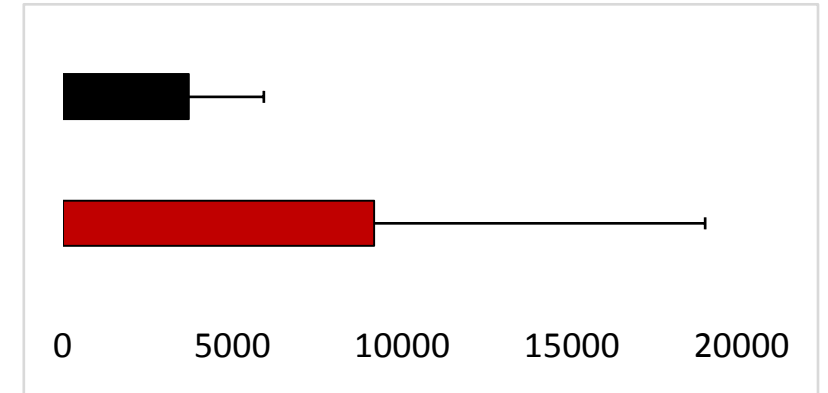
# Multiple metal exposures in Hawija children



Cadmium (Cd)



Arsenic (As)



Lead (Pb)



Non-disabled children



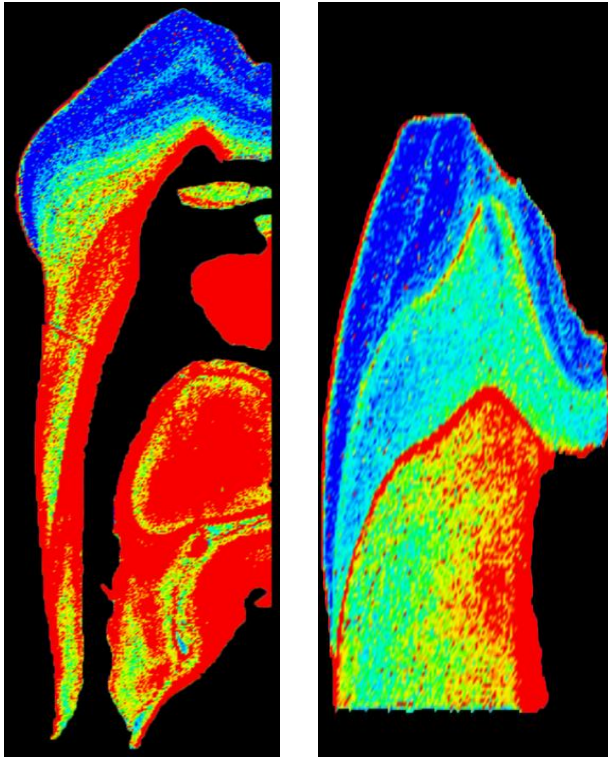
Children with developmental disorders

µg/kg

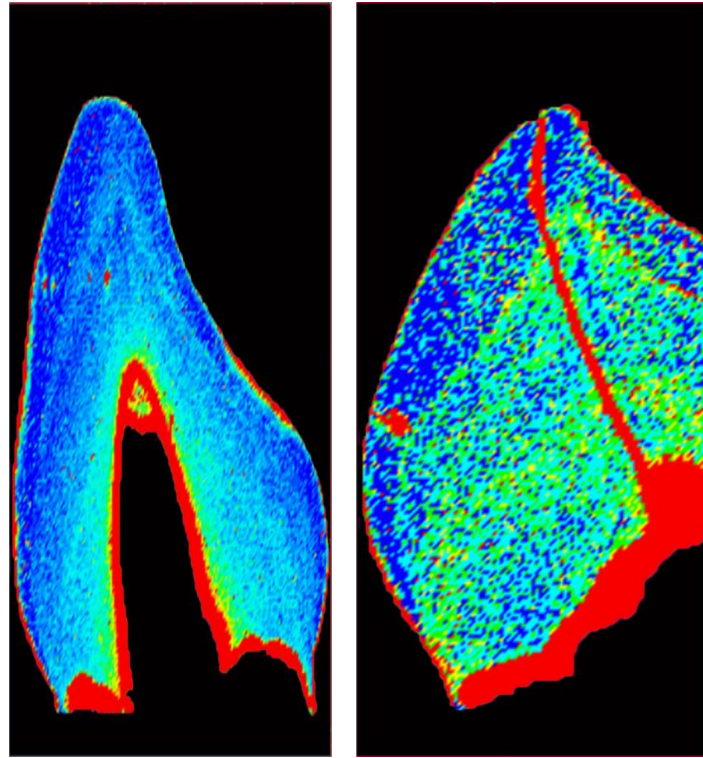


# Lead in deciduous teeth of children:

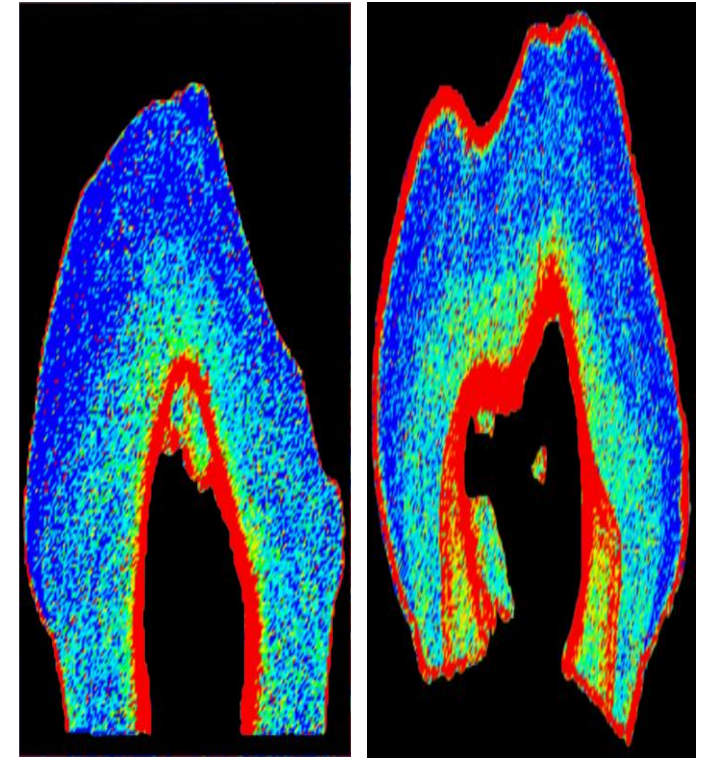
1.1 mg/kg



0.42 mg/kg



0.31 mg/kg



Birth defect--Basra, Iraq

Healthy-- Beirut, Lebanon

Healthy--Isfahan, Iran

Relative Pb intensity

Low



High

Laser ablation (ICP-MS),  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{43}\text{Ca}$  s

# Summary

- I . Public exposure to high levels of persistent toxic metals in Fallujah, Basra, and Hawija.
- II . Children's exposure to high levels of titanium and magnesium links Iraqi public exposure to the same contaminants found in sick U.S. soldiers.
- III . We know that cumulative multiple exposure to neurotoxic compounds causes developmental disorders, birth defects, brain and nervous system disorders.







# What you can do:



- I. Demand clean-up of U.S. military bases and depleted uranium contaminated areas in Iraq. They are a major source of constant toxic release.
- II. Ask your City Councils and Parliaments to vote for resolutions against any further U.S. bombardments or invasions of the Middle East.
- III. Help organize events such as this in Europe.

Many thanks to:

The Rachel Carson Award Committee;  
The City of Stavanger, Norway

# Global impact of our research: European Parliament agenda

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Last update/Dernière mise à jour: 19/10/2012 - 16:30

**Delegation for relations with Iraq**      **Délégation pour les relations avec l'Irak**      Meeting / Réunion  
18/10/2012 - 10:15 h.  
Bruxelles - PHS 4B001

Agenda No OJ	Ref.	Type	Title Titre	Languages Langues
1		DV	Draft agenda	<a href="#">en</a> <a href="#">fr</a> <a href="#">it</a>
2		PV	Minutes of 18.09.12	<a href="#">en</a>
4		DV	Biography of Mr Babilie	<a href="#">en</a>
4		DV	Iraq records huge rise in birth defects	<a href="#">en</a>
4		DV	Children's rights portal - Iraq	<a href="#">en</a>
4		DV	Horrors of war: US, UK munitions 'cause birth defects in Iraq'	<a href="#">en</a>
4		DV	Mine-risk education protects children from explosives in Iraq	<a href="#">en</a>
4		DV	Metal contamination and the epidemic of congenital birth defects in Iraqi cities	<a href="#">en</a>
4		DV	Save the Children - Iraq	<a href="#">en</a>
4		DV	Summer school at a refugee camp for Syrians in Iraq gives children a sense of stability	<a href="#">en</a>
4		DV	UNICEF - Iraq - Statistics	<a href="#">en</a>



# Global impact of our research: Reaction inside Iraq



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## MP describes Increase of birth defects in Iraq as "serious indicator"

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أصوات العراق / سياسة , بغداد  
نائب أنباري بالعراقية يطالب الحكومة بمعالجة "جذرية" لظاهرة زيادة التشوهات الخلقية في البلاد

09:41 03/11/2012 ص



بغداد/ أصوات العراق: طالب من محافظة الأنبار عن ائتلاف العراقية، السبت، الحكومة ووزارة الصحة بإيجاد حلول "جذرية" لمعالجة التشوهات الخلقية والأمراض الخطيرة الناجمة عن الحروب التي تعرض لها العراق، مؤكداً أن توفير البيئة المناسبة والرعاية الصحية يشكل "واجباً" على الحكومة تجاه شعبها.

وقال النائب خالد عبد الله العلواني، في بيان اصدره صباح اليوم، وتلقت وكالة (أصوات العراق) نسخة منه، إن هناك "زيادة في نسبة التشوهات الخلقية بين حديثي الولادة في معظم محافظات العراق"، مشيراً إلى أنه يشكل "مؤشراً خطيراً يؤكد على أن المستوى الصحي والبيئي في العراق سيء للغاية".

وطالب العلواني، في بيانه الحكومة العراقية ووزارة الصحة بضرورة "إيجاد حلول جذرية لمعالجة هذه التشوهات الخلقية"، مؤكداً في الوقت نفسه أن توفير البيئة والرعاية الصحية المناسبة "تشكل واجباً على الحكومة تجاه شعبها".

وأضاف النائب الأنباري عن العراقية، أن هناك "دراسات عديدة تؤكد ارتفاع نسبة التشوهات الخلقية والأمراض الخطيرة منها تلك التي قدمتها جامعة ميتشجن الأميركية ونشرت على نطاق واسع في الولايات المتحدة قبل أيام بشأن زيادة نسبة التشوهات الخلقية في موالي



1994."

He called on the "Iraqi Government and Ministry of Health to find radical solutions to treat these congenital abnormalities, arguing that "This is the duty of the Government towards its people in providing wholesome environment and medical care for them."

Indicator Baghdad (IraqiNews.com) -MP Khalid al-Alwani of the Iraqiya Slate stressed that the rate of birth defects among the newborn children is a serious indicator confirms that the medical and environmental situation in Iraq is very bad.

Alwani The increase of the congenital abnormalities in most of the Iraqi provinces is a critical indicator," pointing out that "The study made by the US Michigan university stressed that the birth defects in Basra province increased to 12 times if compared with the same percentage in Iraq in

# Global impact of our research:

## Reaction inside Iraq


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Tuesday Nov 06, 2012 10:04 AM GMT Brother of Syrian parliament speaker assassinated

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### Iraqi lawmakers to study birth defects



Iraqi women and children seen during US military airstrikes (file photo).

Iraqi lawmakers are set to study reasons behind the growing number of birth defects in some areas of the country, a report says.

Tue Nov 6, 2012 10:5AM GMT

4 2 4

The Iraqi parliament's Health and Environment Committee will hold a meeting with Iraqi Health Ministry officials in near future to review radioactive contamination and the increase of birth defects in the areas, said Iraqi representative Habib Hamza Al-Tarfi.

Earlier, legislator Khalid al-Wani had warned of the spiraling number of birth defects among Iraqi babies and reiterated the necessity of resolving the root cause of the defects.

*The initiative to address the case was announced after a recent report, published in the Environmental Contamination and Toxicology bulletin, revealed high rates of miscarriage and toxic levels of lead and mercury contamination in the cities at the heart of the US-led military campaigns in Iraq, especially Fallujah and Basra.*

New findings, published by the bulletin, suggested that the increased numbers of defects and miscarriages are linked to military assaults.

The study found that more than half of all the Iraqi babies born between 2007 and 2010 had been born with a birth defect, compared to one in 10 before the US-led invasion of the violence-scarred country in March 2003.

Hair samples, taken from residents of Fallujah, showed trace elements of poisonous metals. The levels of lead were five times higher in the hair of children with birth defects, compared to those without some, the study said.

US military forces first bombarded Fallujah in April 2004 after four employees from the American mercenary company, Blackwater were killed there.

An earlier study of 5,000 families in Fallujah in 2010, suggested that the risk of getting cancer among one-year-old or younger babies has increased worrisomely.

## Questions raised over Iraq congenital birth defects study

[Paul C Webster](#)

- WHO study relies on mother's memory
- Little information about sampling method
- Districts chosen for analysis may not reflect the characteristics of the governorate as a whole
- Misclassifications
- Measurement errors
- Selection bias

British Medical Journal

LETTERS

22 October 2013

BIRTH DEFECTS IN IRAQ

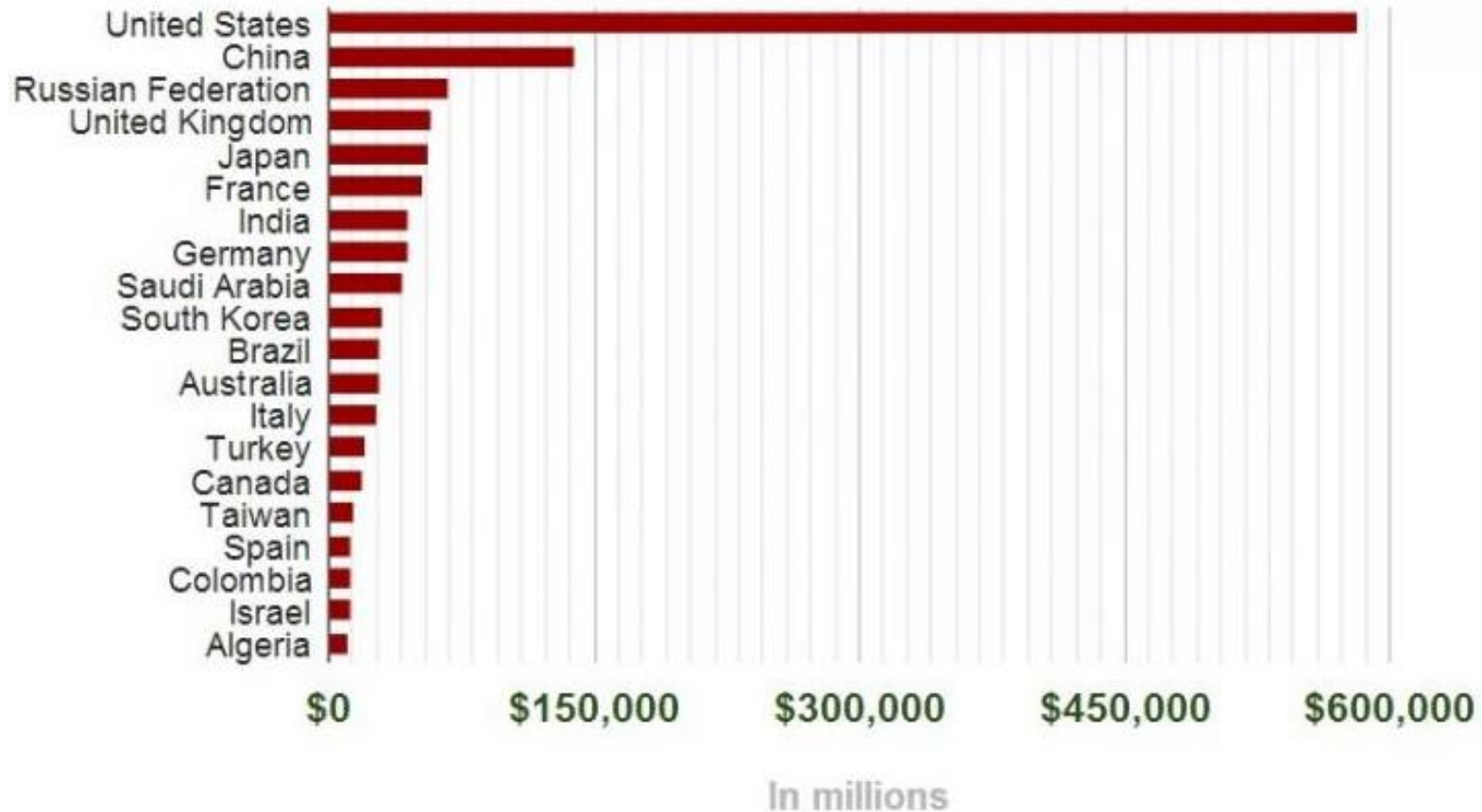
## Is the Iraqi birth defects report believable?

Mozhgan Savabieasfahani *public health researcher*

Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA



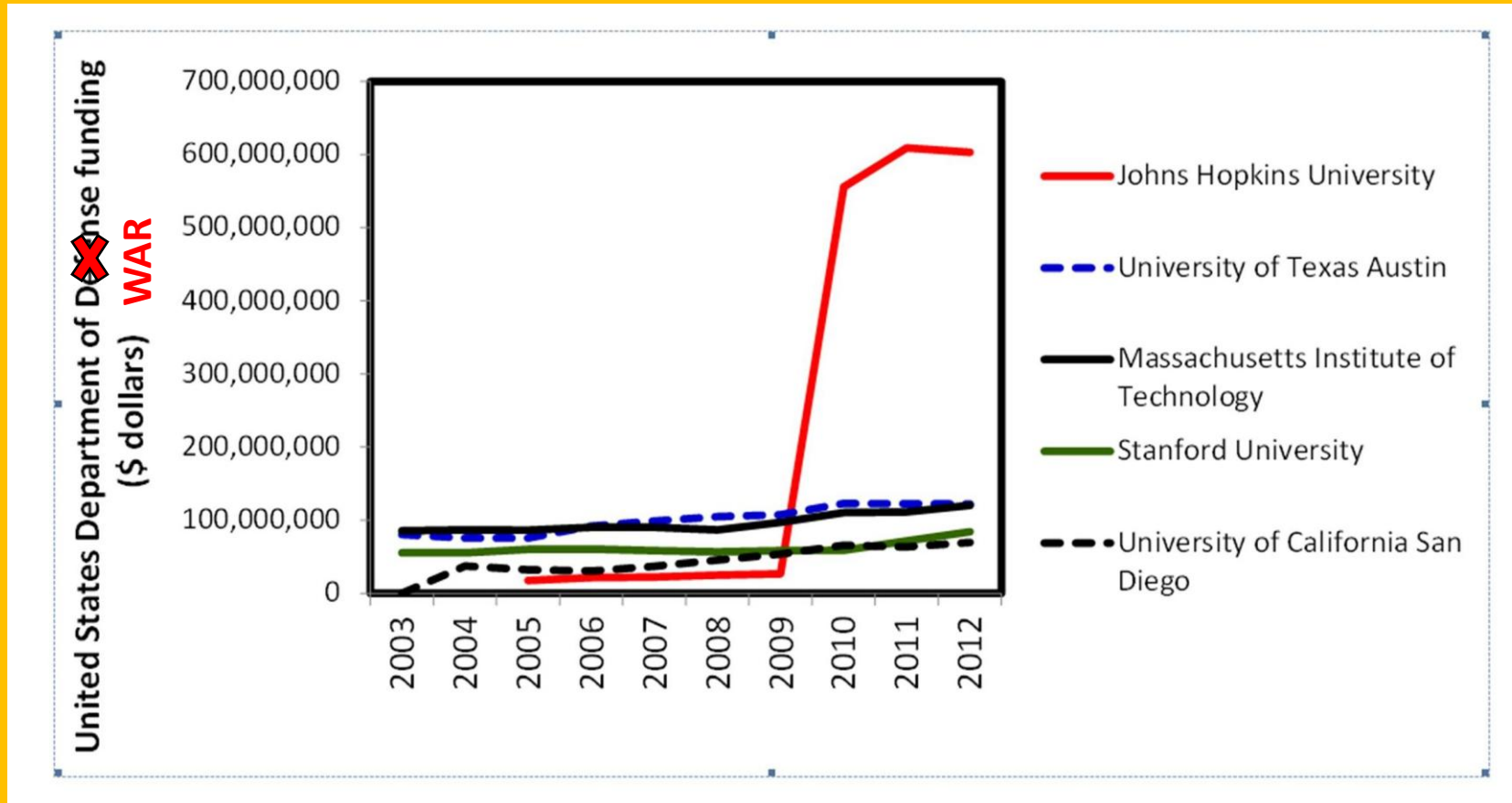
## Top 20 Defense Budgets, 2013



SOURCE: IHS Jane's Aerospace, Defence & Security

Dr. Ghoshroy at MIT: There is growing recognition that defense spending at the current level of about \$700 billion is no longer sustainable in view of massive budget deficits.

# Don't lease your brain to these people:



SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Higher Education R&D Survey. Savabieasfahani, Mozghan (2014), "Militarized Universities Endanger Global Public Health", published in *Class, Race and Corporate Power: Vol. 2: Issue 1, Article 4*

غبار آلوده عراق با ریز گرد ها دائما وارد ایران میشود

