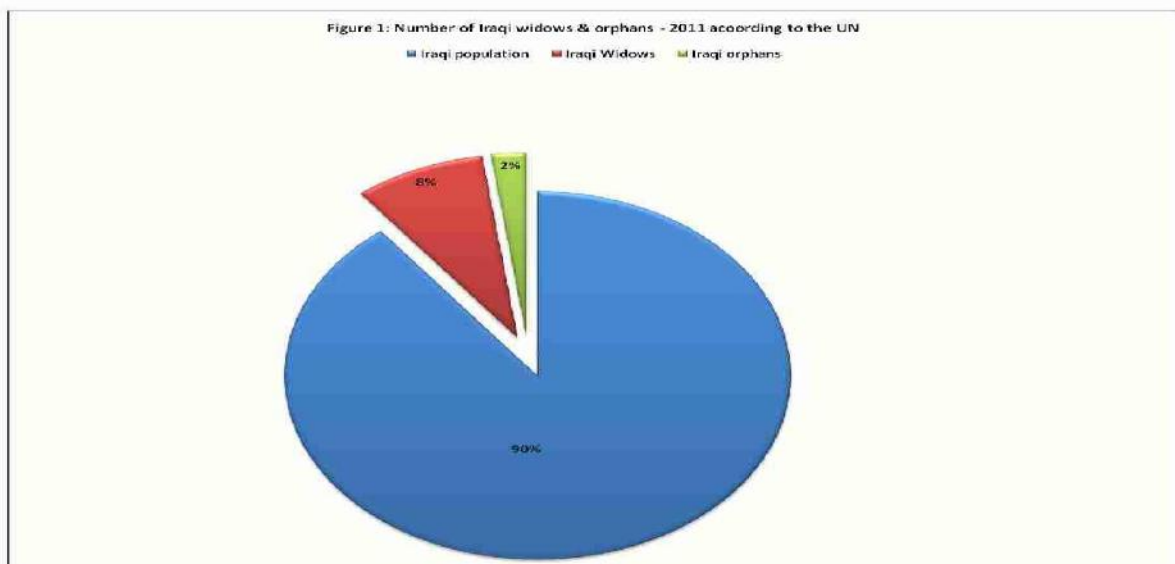


War killed Iraqi Women Dreams

She lost her husband 20 years ago in Iraq-Iran war. In 2015, her 3 boys were Involved in voluntary work to clean up the city. Suicide bomber strapped with explosives was among volunteers. An explosion heard. She rushed there, panicked confused, and screaming. The tragedy, she lost them with other boys. She is left alone again, throwing dust on her head, screaming "God, they went to you".

With each car bomb or suicide bomber strapped with explosives or a bomb, the number of orphans and widows in Iraq rises. This scene does not stop in my country. Every day, every hour, one of the families loses a son or husband in the terrorist bombings. Such losses increase the suffering of families. No secret to anyone that the suffering of widowhood extends to all aspects of social life from poverty to destitution, family degradation and sometimes social and moral corruption. All this leads to the loss of family and children.

Image reflecting the most tragic side of this country: Widows and children are the victims. WHO indicated that >2500000 widows in Iraq. UNICEF reported that number of orphans in Iraq is 5,700,000.



In 2011, UNICEF estimated that 800,000 children in Iraq had lost either one or both parents. This figure must have increased due to the severe attacks suffered by Iraq during the past couple of years, especially 2013, which the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) considered one of the bloodiest years Iraq has ever seen <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/zh/originals/2014/09/anbar-bombing-widows-orphans-iraq-security.html#>

UN agencies estimate they make up to 3 million of the total Iraqi population of 32 million. The government insists their number does not exceed 1 million. Either way, the number of widows grows by at least five each day <http://www.theArabweekly.com/?id=374>

Table 3.10: Countries with Highest Percent of Widows of Female Marital Age Group, 2010 Report

Country	Percent	Country	Percent	Country	Percent
Ghana	7.0	Guinea	8.5	Norway	12.0
Palestine	7.0	Guinea-	8.5	Poland	12.0
Peru	7.0	Liberia	8.5	Portugal	12.0
Tanzania	7.0	Somalia	8.5	Slovenia	12.0
Zimbabwe	7.0	Thailand	8.8	Spain	12.0
Cote d'Ivoire	7.2	Tunisia	8.8	Georgia	12.8
El Salvador	7.2	Albania	9.0	Austria	13.0
Malaysia	7.2	Palau	9.1	Denmark	13.0
Senegal	7.2	India	9.1	France	13.0
Turkey	7.2	Cyprus	9.2	Iceland	13.0
Bangladesh	7.3	Taiwan	9.2	Japan	13.0
Bolivia	7.3	New Zealand	9.4	Luxembourg	13.0
Maldives	7.3	Australia	9.7	Mauritius	13.0
Libya	7.4	Canada	9.7	Monaco	13.0
Micronesia	7.4	Oman	9.7	UK	13.0
Namibia	7.5	Chad	9.8	Germany	14.0
CAR	7.6	Mongolia	9.9	Greece	14.0
Pakistan	7.6	Ireland	10.0	Rwanda	14.0
Saudi Arabia	7.6	Israel	10.3	Kazakhstan	14.7
Laos	7.7	North Korea	10.3	Czech	15.0
Mauritania	7.7	South Korea	10.3	Italy	15.0
Nigeria	7.7	USA	10.5	Macedonia	15.0
Chile	7.9	Argentina	10.7	Malta	15.0
Mozambique	7.9	Burkina Faso	10.7	Moldova	15.0
Gabon	8.0	Netherlands	11.0	Slovakia	15.0
China	8.1	Russia	11.0	Bosnia	16.0
Ethiopia	8.1	Sweden	11.0	Estonia	16.0
Indonesia	8.1	Switzerland	11.0	Belarus	17.0
Myanmar	8.1	Uzbekistan	11.1	Hungary	17.0
Sierra Leone	8.1	Turkmenistan	11.5	Lithuania	17.0
Iraq	8.3	Kyrgyzstan	11.9	Romania	17.0
Mali	8.3	Uruguay	11.9	Croatia	18.0
Morocco	8.4	Azerbaijan	12.0	Serbia-	18.0
Singapore	8.4	Belgium	12.0	Ukraine	19.0
Angola	8.5	Egypt	12.0	Afghanistan	27.5
Congo DR	8.5	Finland	12.0		
Eritrea	8.5	Latvia	12.0		

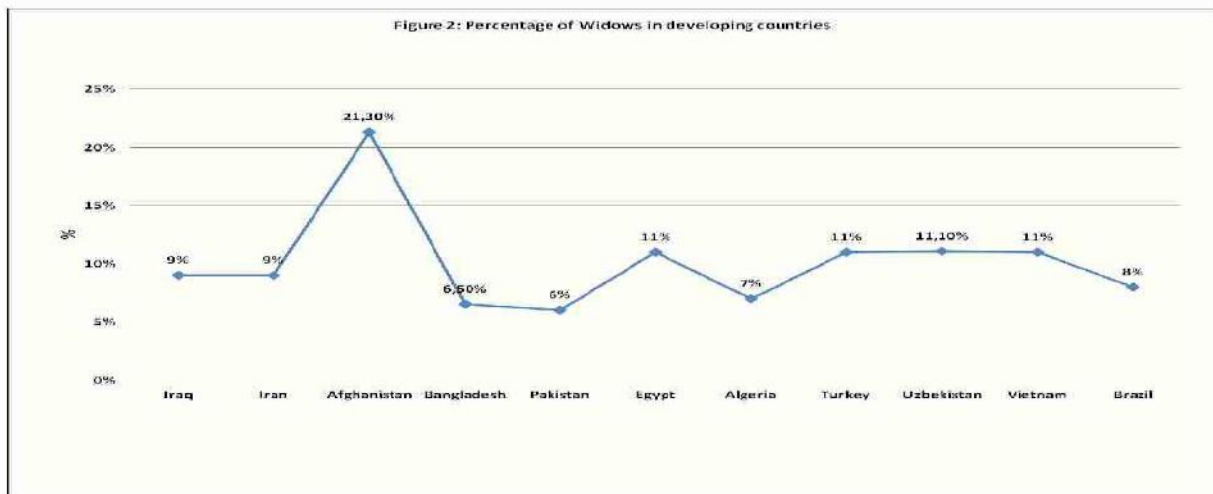
Table 4.6 Countries with War Widows – Part I:

Sub-Saharan Africa	North Africa	Middle East	Central Asia	South Asia	East Asia
Angola	Algeria	Cyprus	Armenia	Afghanistan	Cambodia
Burundi	Egypt	Iran	Azerbaijan	Bangladesh	China
Central African	Libya	Iraq	Georgia	India	East Timor
Chad	Morocco	Israel	Tajikistan	Nepal	Indonesia
Congo (Brazzaville)		Jordan	Uzbekistan	Pakistan	Lao
Congo Dem. Rep.		Kuwait		Sri Lanka	Myanmar
Cote d'Ivoire		Lebanon			North
Djibouti		Syria			South
Eritrea		Turkey			Vietnam
Ethiopia		Yemen			
Ghana					
Guinea					
Guinea Bissau					
Liberia					
Mozambique					
Namibia					
Rwanda					
Senegal					
Sierra Leone					
Somalia					
South Africa					
Sudan					
Togo					
Uganda					
Zimbabwe					

²⁰ The midpoint of the estimate range is 1,220,580 where the above range represents a plus-or-minus 2.5% error margin. Deaths are for violence only, not indirect causes such as lack of health care, poor nutrition, and lack of clean water and sanitation. Polling organisation is Opinon Research Business. This is the most recent estimate, a history of estimates on Iraq civilian deaths was reviewed by Steele et al (2008).

Also a report was published in 2015 by The LOOMBA Foundation, estimated that the percentage of widows in Iraq was 8.3% <http://theloombafoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Loomba-Foundation-Global-Widows-FULL-Report-2015-V2.2.pdf>

According to unofficial statistics, widows and orphans in Iraq are more than 8 million. A study by the UN and other research centers confirmed that the number has reached 3 million women. But on the other hand, Iraqi Ministry of Social Affairs reported that they could not determine the number of widows and orphans, because of the continuing growing numbers, Figure 2.



Sociologists warn of the growing violence in Iraqi society, which definitely will affect the widows and orphans. There is no doubt that many children are subjected to exploitation at the hands of the worst types of killers and criminals. They are used by extremist groups to carry out its plans of aggression against Iraq.

Many humanitarian organizations are warning that this country that is rich in oil, culture and civilization will be the home for widows and orphans. This image is reflecting the most tragic side of this country, Figure 3 reflected the situation of widows in Iraq comparing it to other developing countries.

