

## Life in Mosul and leaving the city

Testimony of a Moslawi woman who was smuggled out of the city one month ago.

### Conditions within Mosul

- People with no relation to ISIS, the Iraqi Army or civil service are generally left alone
- Services like schools and hospitals are operating and salaries for teachers, doctors etc. are being paid, although decreased
- ISIS pedantic about enforcing traffic rules – speeding & traffic lights
- Strict on dress – full burka demanded for women; men must grow beards
- Women who work with ISIS do not have to cover their heads
- ISIS checks every house in the city to see if it is occupied by the legal owners. If ownership can't be proved the occupants are turfed out. The furniture is taken away and/or the house is inhabited by ISIS
- Airstrikes happen each day and are effective. ISIS have moved their offices into residential houses
- They are very well informed and have a full database of information on everyone in the city
- Ex-Baath party members who are not part of ISIS are being sought out. Fears that they will lead a revolution against ISIS
- Citizens have very little information from outside. Poor access to media

### Two months ago, ISIS cracked down on people leaving their territory

- Only allow people to leave for health reasons or to obtain retirement papers (money) from outside
- For health, signatures from three different doctors are required in order to receive permission
- Before leaving, title deeds must be handed over as a guarantee of return
- A date is set for return, after which time ISIS take ownership of property
- A large group of IDPs arrived in Mosul from Shirqat three weeks ago and now want to return to their farms but are not being allowed

### Legal departure is via Bawabatisham 'Gate of Sham' ISIS checkpoint, into Rutba(?), Anbar.

- ISIS extremely careful with checking permission to leave
- Halfway house between the lines, Mohammed al Kurdi restaurant, where clothes can be changed, beards trimmed
- Reportedly no difficulty in passing Hasd Shabbi checkpoint on other side
- Reportedly easy to pass Bawabatisham checkpoint if you are entering ISIS territory and even easy to exit Hashd Shabbi territory

### Illegal departure

- Costs \$2,000 to go via Anbar. Previously paid less to go via Syria but was caught. Also caught once going via Anbar. On both occasions the driver was punished – money taken away, vehicle and papers
- Taken in a big lorry and stop of at several points to pick up more people
- Route: Mosul, Shirqat, Jazeera, Anbar, Baghdad

#### Child soldiers

- Children aged 14-15 being taken for training
- Reports of incident involving 30-40 children aged 7-12 being taken. Families don't know where they are
- Taken to Kerama School, training centre on Hawler Road and nearby Haribakir training centre