

World Peace Day, Iraq: Baghdad Peace Festival



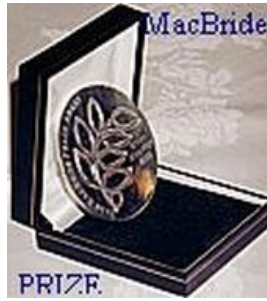
Iraqis celebrated the International Day of Peace on September 21st by organizing the Baghdad Peace Festival in the centre of Baghdad. It was an impressive feat, bringing together Iraqis and Iraqi youth to celebrate peace in this war-torn country. The Festival was organized by the Iraqi Alamal Association (IAA), whose secretary Hanaa Edwar will be awarded the Sean MacBride Peace Prize in 2011 (along with German anti-nuclear lawyer Peter Becker) by the International Peace Bureau. The ceremony will take place in Potsdam, Germany, on October 29th, during the International Peace Bureau's annual Council meeting.



Hanaa Edwar

The IAA collaborated with other youth groups and Iraqi activists, artists and sports teams to spread Peace culture and to remind the world that Baghdad was once called “the City of Peace”. Musicians, singers, artists, dancers and actors all contributed to make the festival a success, with hundreds of Iraqis attending, including members of the Baghdad Provincial Council.

Hind Al-Qaisy opened the Peace festival, explaining the ideas behind the International Day of Peace and how it began. The Head of the IAA, Noa’aman Muna, followed the opening presentation and thanked the efforts of all the young men and women who participated in making the festival come to life. Additionally, he congratulated IAA secretary Hanaa Edwar for receiving the Sean MacBride Peace Prize.



Useful links:

International Peace Bureau: <http://ipb.org/i/index.html>

Official site: <http://iqwpd.wordpress.com/2011/10/04/baghdad-peace-festival/>

Blog (Arabic): <http://iqwpd.wordpress.com/>

Facebook site: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/World-Peace-Day-Iraqi-Alamal-Association/227911613924941#!/pages/World-Peace-Day-Iraqi-Alamal-Association/227911613924941?sk=info>

Report: <http://www.mideastyouth.com/2011/09/23/baghdad-peace-festival-a-rise-to-expectations/>

Iraqi Alamal Association: <http://www.iraqi-alamal.org/english/index.htm>

IPB Press Release on 2011 Sean MacBride Peace Prize: <http://ipb.org/i/pdf-files/McBride-Announcement-2011-Eng.pdf>

Videos:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8KLteTgvfww>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzNCgQvBz-c&feature=related>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tePi_a2X2UE&feature=related

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=inYbgE6qokk>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EObvy7QU-ho&feature=related>

<http://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10150312245698137>