

## Iraq • Sinjar City, Mosul, Ninewa Situation Report 5 14 August 2009

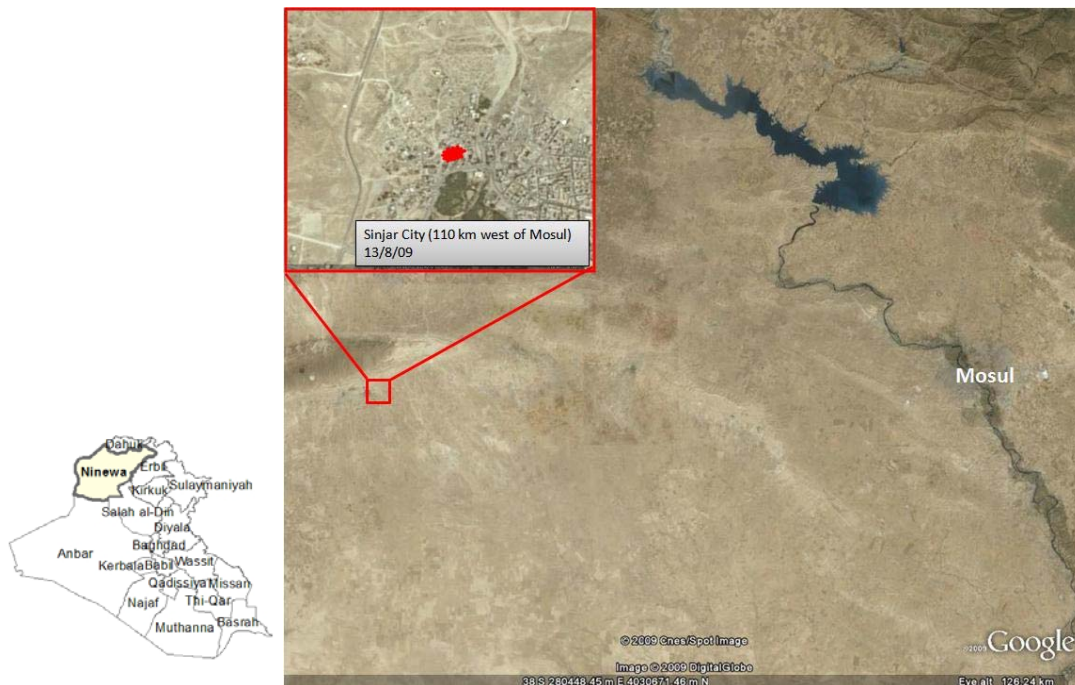
*This report was issued by the OCHA and UNAMI Iraq country offices and covers the period from 13 to 14 August 2009.*

### HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

On 13 August 2009, at 1730 hours, a suicide attack near the market in Sinjar, Ninewa has left 20 dead and 50 injured. The town, some 110 kilometers west of Mosul, hosts a mainly Yazidi community.

This is the third attack on Ninewa's minorities within the last week and the fourth in just over a month, resulting in approximately 150 dead and more than 500 injured. The local authorities are under increasing pressure to show they can ensure security as more attacks are expected by the local community.

Despite the loss of life and heightened insecurity, it appears that no critical humanitarian needs are evident at this stage for this latest attack. The UN is in contact with the Office of the Governor, local coordination committees and representatives of the humanitarian community to support the response.



## II. Situation Overview

On 13 August 2009, at 1730 hours, a suicide attack near the market in Sinjar, Ninewa has left 20 dead and 50 injured. The suicide attack targeted young people socializing in a popular local café. Sinjar is a mainly Yazidi community some 110 kilometers west of Mosul

This is the third attack on Ninewa's minorities within the last week and the fourth in just over a month, resulting in approximately 150 dead and more than 500 injured. The recent run of devastating attacks in Ninewa is resulting in growing calls from all sides to augment security in the governorate.

Table 1. Summary of significant attacks on minority communities in Ninewa Governorate since the beginning of July 2009

Date	Location (Ninewa Governorate)	Population	Consequences/Outstanding needs
13 August 2009	Sinjar, Sinjar district	Yazidi	20 dead-50 injured / no critical needs
12 August 2009	Khazna Tabtah, Al Hamdaniya district	Shebek, Turkmen	34 dead-174 injured / house rehabilitation/reconstruction
10 August 2009	Sherkhan Sufla, Tilkeif district	Turkmen	45 dead/217 injured / house rehabilitation/reconstruction
9 July 2009	Telafar, Telafar district	Turkmen	45 dead/65 injured – no additional critical needs

While a deteriorating security situation in Ninewa will make it difficult for the humanitarian community to access, assess and assist the authorities to meet humanitarian needs, there is a coordinated effort being supported by all humanitarian actors in light of growing security concerns.

Difficulties in humanitarian access, the imposition of curfews in several areas and the resulting difficulty for communities to access basic services will, if unchecked raise humanitarian and protection concerns. However, the level of cooperation with provincial and local authorities remains high; UN agencies, ICRC and NGOs are by and large able to operate normally with problems on the ground quickly addressed.

## III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

### Health

Health authorities in Sinjar, Mosul (Al Jumhuri Hospital) and Dohuk report that, in light of the relatively limited number of casualties, the medical services have so far been able to cope and do not require additional medical supplies. The Dahuk Hospital has requested ICRC for some medical supplies, which will be sent soon, but there are no critical needs. UNICEF is also in touch with the authorities and is prepared to assist with medical supplies should they be requested.

The Provincial Council Deputy Chairman reported that the Department for Health sent all required supplies to Sinjar Hospital soon after the attack.

### Emergency Shelter:

Initial reports suggest the attack did not hit a residential area and as such there are no immediate shelter needs to report.

### Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Nothing to report – as above

### Food and non-food items

Nothing to report – as above

## IV. Coordination

UNAMI DHS is in direct contact with the Governor's Office, Provincial Council and Sinjar officials while at the same time working with the UN agencies on the ground, ICRC and NGOs to assess whether there are any

*The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.*

immediate needs to address. Point of contacts within the local coordination committees have been shared with the main responders.

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