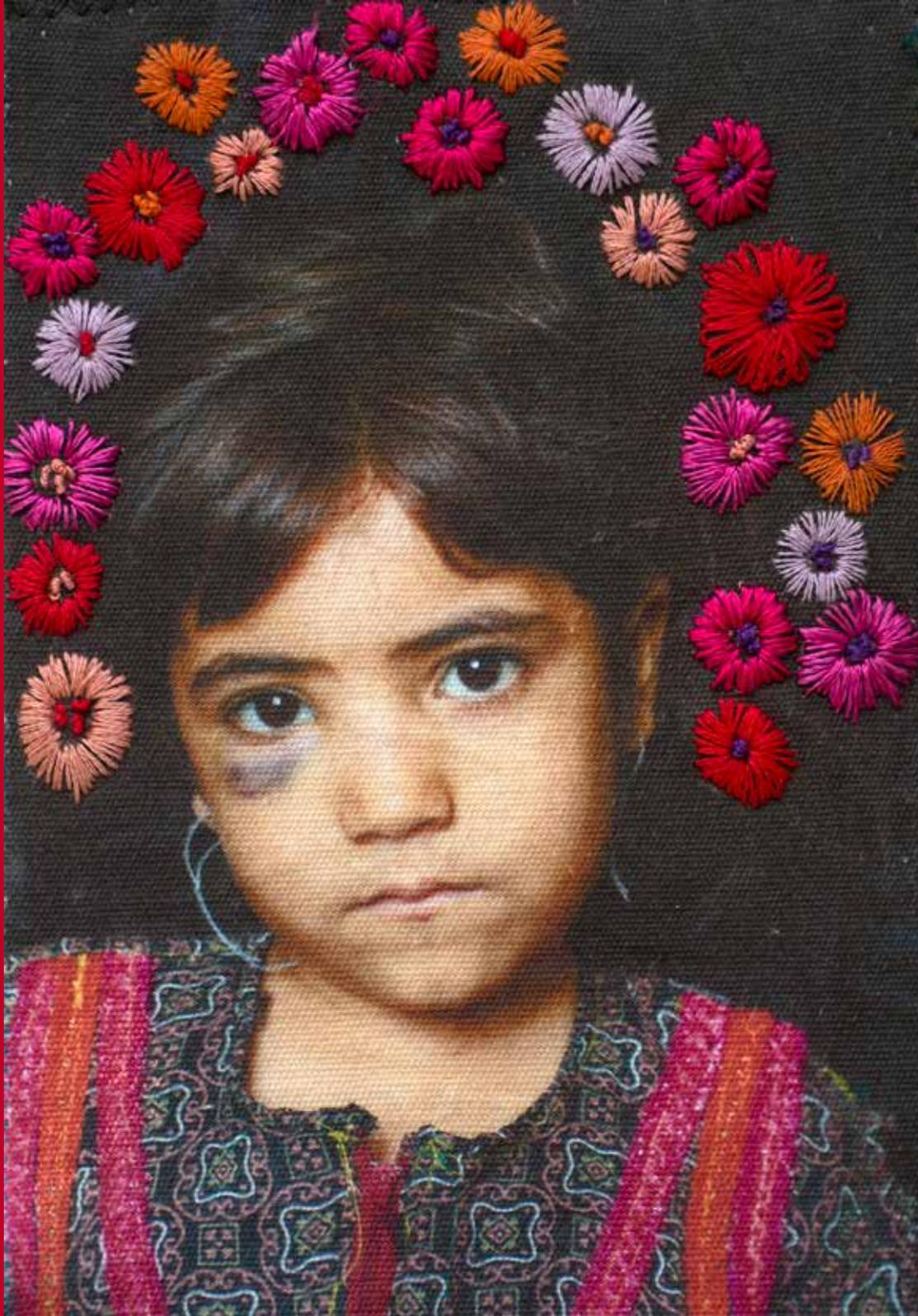


# IRAQ



**When I first went to Iraq in 1999 it was a tightly controlled country and people lived in fear of Saddam Hussein, his sons and the secret police, the Mukhabarat.**

**International sanctions had a devastating effect on the economy leading to the death of around one million children according to UN estimates.**

**After the Shock and Awe bombing of March 2003 and subsequent pursuit and killing of Saddam, Baghdad was a city of optimism but as the Occupation led to greater insecurity and repression, life became about just surviving. Al Queda and then ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) created a climate of fear with suicide bombings. Women lost their jobs and female students gave up their university places.**

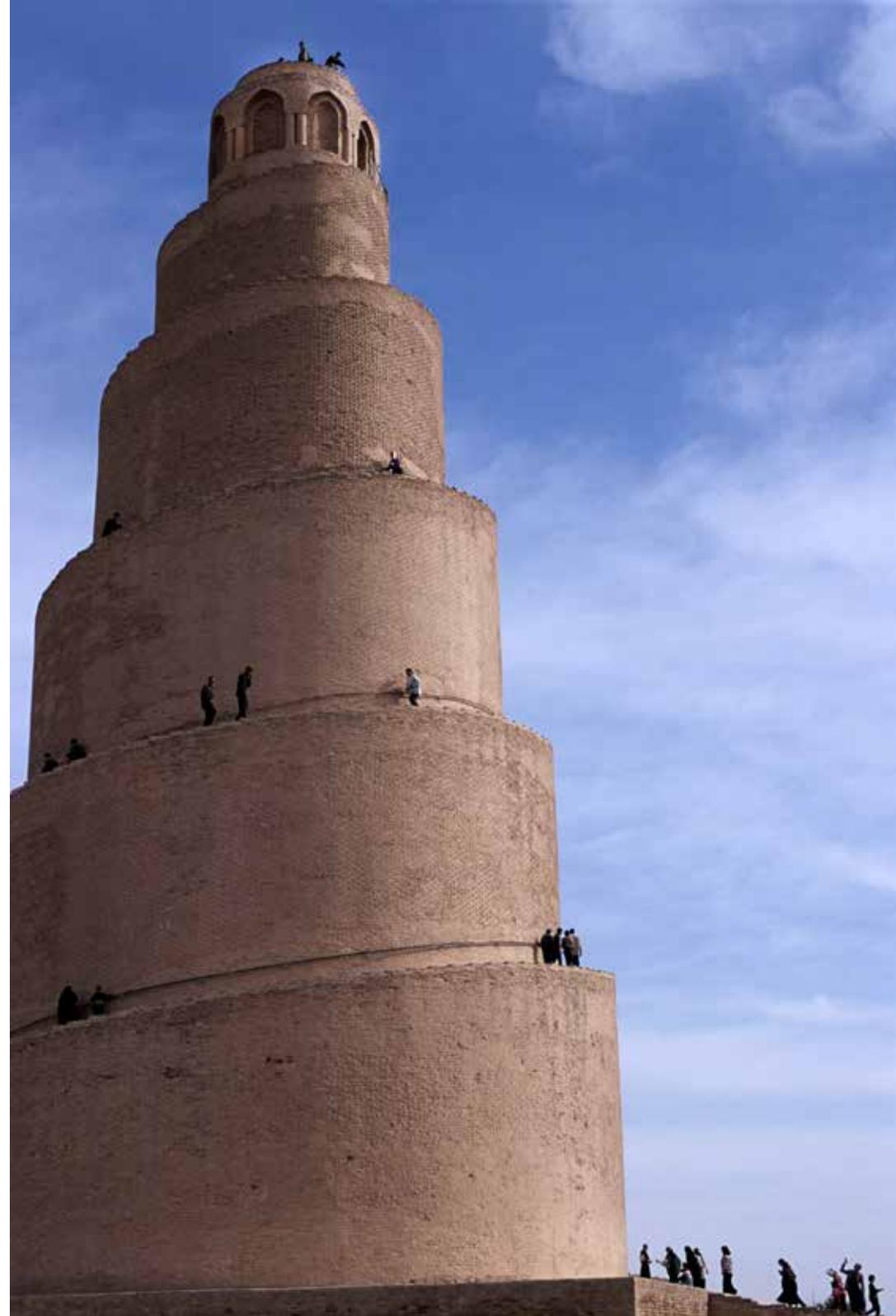
**Alongside insecurity some families have also been living with the spectre of depleted uranium still in the ecosphere from both Gulf Wars and the children's hospital in Basra has recorded a much higher incidence of childhood cancers.**

Jenny Matthews 2021

## **Fatimeh**

sick with leukemia allegedly  
caused by depleted uranium in  
the environment after First Gulf  
war allied bombing of Basra





August  
2004

**Basra**  
Family selling watermelons



Samarra  
1999

## Children's playground



Baghdad  
2003

## **Iraqi women queuing for propane gas**

in extreme heat. It is used for cooking. After the Allied bombing the price increased tenfold and people waited ages to buy it



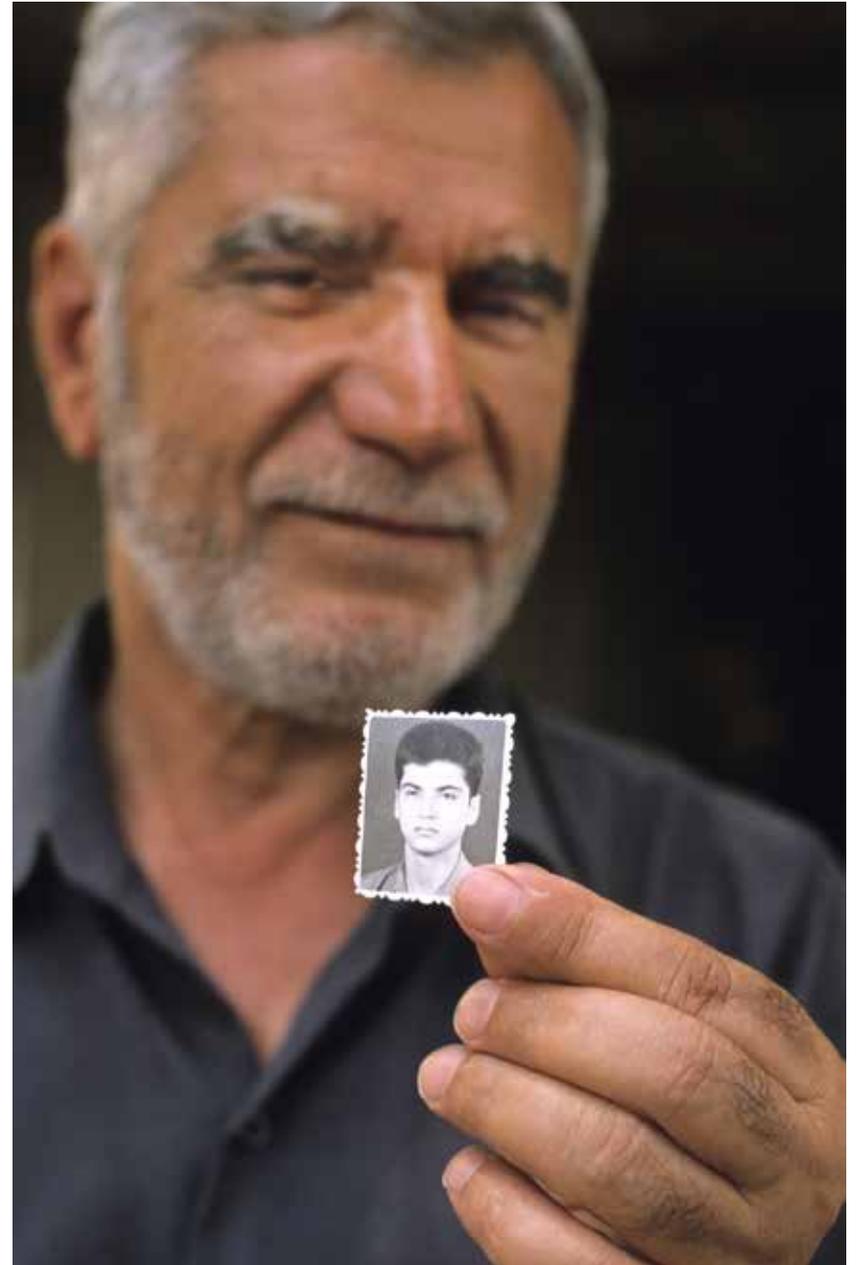
Baghdad  
June

## Defaced portrait of Saddam Hussein



## Ali with a picture of his son

who left to seek a better a life as an asylum seeker but disappeared on his way to Australia. Ali thinks he might have been amongst refugees whose boat sunk





**Basra 2004**

This family live opposite the remains of two Iraqi troop carriers that are giving off considerable radiation. The carriers were bombed in March 2003 by Coalition forces using a depleted uranium tipped rocket

## **Delaal**

in a Basra neighbourhood with high levels of radioactivity presumed to come from depleted uranium in the environment



## **Basra hospital, children's oncology ward**

Noor Sabir, aged 8 who is being treated for leukaemia. Since the First Gulf War there has been a large increase in childhood cancers



## The Oil Ministry

was the only Ministry to be guarded and thus not looted after the Allied bombing of Baghdad



**Salam, aged 10**

was injured when a bomb from a helicopter hit an electricity post which fell and a cable hit him. He had multiple injuries resulting in amputation of his right leg



**Mohammed Hamid aged 6**

was injured in an accident in Basra in 2004



Basra  
August  
2004

## **Girl walking past troop carrier**

which still measured considerable radiation...it was hit by a depleted uranium tipped rocket



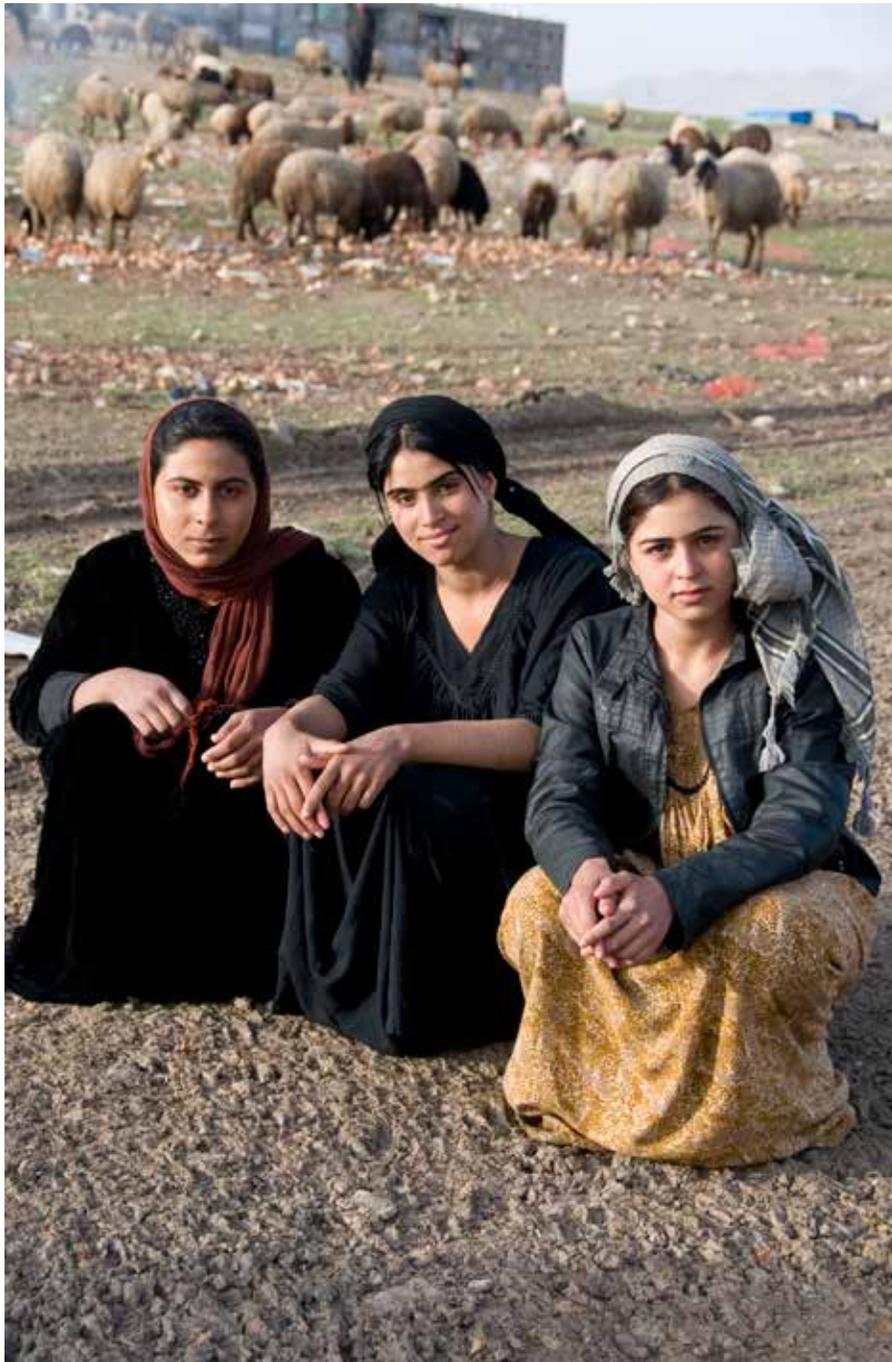
## **Qawala camp for displaced, Suleimanya**

3 kms from the city centre, home to 136 families from Baghdad, Dyala and Mosul. Taybah Hameed and her mother in front of their tent doing the washing up



**Qawala camp for displaced Kurdish Iraqis, in Suleimanya**

Amal 13, Khadil 15 and Dua 14



**Um Mohammed**

hospital cleaner





**US Army tank in Baghdad**  
with a gruesome message on its  
gun turret

**Hand of  
Fatima  
(Khamisa)**

a symbol of protection,  
power and  
strength. Clay  
versions of it  
are to be found  
in many Iraqi  
homes

