

# Celebration of the World Wetlands Day in Iraq

**By: Jassim Al-Asadi**



In the forty two anniversary of World Wetlands Day which marks in 2<sup>nd</sup> of February, Center for Restoration of Iraqi Marshes and Wetlands (CRIMW) held a big celebration on February, 6th, 2013 in Alelwia club in the middle of Baghdad with the slogan of “wetlands reserve water”, a huge number of audience, water resources and wetlands specialists, national personalities and local media representatives. In addition to CRIMW, ministry of environment, ministry of industry, ministry of culture, ministry of technology and Nature Iraq Organization.

The ceremony included a speech for the minister of water resources Mr. Mohanad Alsa’di which was represented by the ministry consultant Mr. Mohamed Aldhari, the speech mentioned the current situation of Iraq from RAMSAR agreement and the importance of wetlands as marshes, lakes, rivers, coasts and the other types of wetlands. The speech also included the efforts of the ministry’s staff to revive Iraqi marshes. Also Nature Iraq Organization pointed that as a conclusion from cabinet decision that CRIM will undertake the missions of national commission for marshes and wetlands which it aims to:

- Implementing of Ramsar Convention items.
- Conservation of marshes and wetlands.
- Making of national policy to manage marshes and wetlands in Iraq.
- Involving of Iraq wetlands in list of wetlands of international importance.
- Improving workers’ capacities in wetlands field.
- Involving and managing parks inside wetlands.

In addition to its previous responsibilities, they added wetlands word to name of (CRIM) to be center for restoration of Iraq marshes and wetlands (CRIMW).

The ceremony also included a movie that demonstrated the importance of wetlands also included an operetta for group of children and photographic exhibit about the wetlands, awards and publications with Arabic language from Ramsar secretary have been distributed for audience.



Adviser to the Minister of Water Resources Iraqi minister speech at the celebration



Scenes from paintings dancer in the celebration



Side of the public who participated in the celebration



Side of the posters that were distributed in the corridors of the celebration





Exhibition books and publications relating to wetlands organized by Nature Iraq Org





**Photo exhibit, which was held within the festival and represent aspects of the Central Marsh**

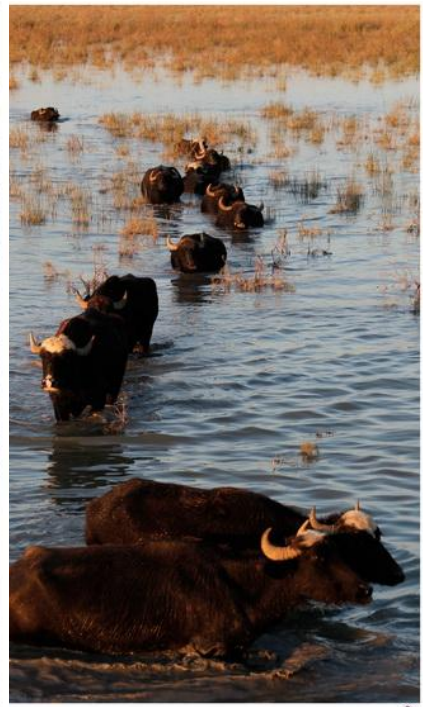




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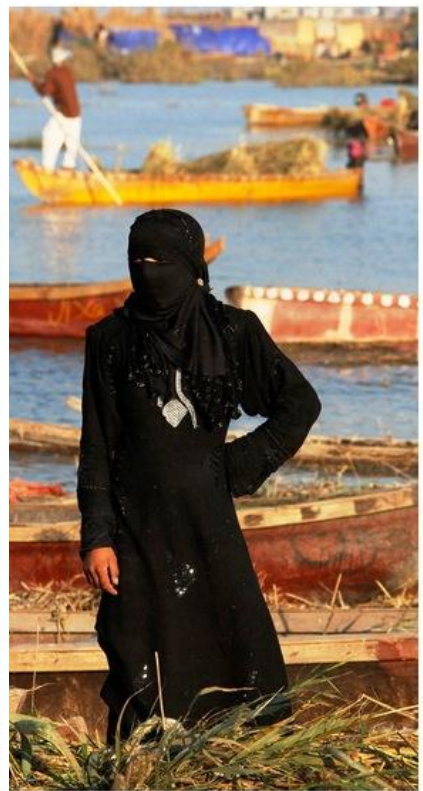
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Another aspect of the photo gallery within the festival, which organized by Iraqi photographic Center and Nature Iraq Org.