

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN IRAQ

by

MOHAMMED SAID HUSSAIN

B.S., College of Economics & Political Science, 1966  
Baghdad, Iraq

3735

A MASTER'S REPORT

submitted in partial fulfillment of the

requirements for the degree

MASTER OF ARTS

Department of Economics

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
Manhattan, Kansas

1970

Approved by:

E. W. Nafziger  
Major Professor

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The writer wishes to express his deepest gratitude and sincere appreciation to Professor E. W. Nafziger, his major professor, for the guidance and continuous assistance during writing this report. Thanks are also extended to Professor E. S. Bagley for reading the manuscripts of this report and for his valuable suggestions. The author also wishes to thank Professor M. J. Greenwood for his comments and suggestions which helped him tremendously in preparing this report.

LD  
2668  
R4  
1970  
H87  
C.2

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS . . . . .	ii
	TABLE OF CONTENTS . . . . .	iii
	LIST OF TABLES . . . . .	iv
	INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
I	THE PROBLEMS OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN IRAQ . . . . .	7
	Agricultural Products and Livestock	
	The Irrigation Problem	
	The Problem of Labor Engaged in Agriculture	
	Financial Problems	
	Marketing Problems	
II	LAND REFORM IN IRAQ . . . . .	44
III	THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN PROMOTING THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR AND THE PLANNING IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT . . . . .	63
	Economic Development Planning in Iraq	
	The Plan for the Years 1961/62 - 1965/66	
IV	CONCLUSION . . . . .	78
	BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . .	84

## LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
1	Total Area for the Winter Crops in Iraq from 1957-67 . . . . .	7
2	Total Production (tons) and Average Yield Per Dunum (kilogram). . . . .	8
3	Total Production and the Amount of Export Value . . . . .	10
4	Principal Summer Crops of Iraq . . . . .	11
5	Average Yields in Iraq, Yield = 100 kilogram/ hecta for 1966 . . . . .	13
6	Area of Forests Demarcated and Surveyed . . . . .	14
7	Numbers of Livestock in Iraq . . . . .	17
8	The Methods by Which Water is Supplied . . . . .	21
9	Number of Pumps and Total Horse-power in Iraq . . . . .	25
10	Area Within Irrigation Systems (in 1000 dunums) . . . . .	26
11	The Population Census by Liwa for 1957 and 1965 . . . . .	30
12	Distribution by Age, 1957 for Iraq and United States . . . . .	31
13	Rural and Urban Population and Workers - 1957 and 1965 . . . . .	33
14	Total Amounts of Agriculture Credits and Number of Loans from 1960/1961 - 1967/1968 . . . . .	39
15	The Sizes, Number and Area in Dunums of Land Owners in Iraq before 1958 . . . . .	48
16	Total Area of Sequestrated Lands, Total Area of Land Distributed and Number of Beneficiaries up to 1967 by Liwa . . . . .	54
17	Agricultural Cooperative Societies Established According to Agrarian Reform Law up to December 31, 1967 by Liwa . . . . .	55
18	Total Machines Owned by Agrarian Reform up to December 31, 1967 Distributed by Liwa . . . . .	61

## LIST OF TABLES (continued)

Table		Page
19	Production and Average Production of Main Crops In Iraq for the Years 1955 - 1967 . . . . .	62
20	Total Chemical Fertilizers Imported to Iraq and Its Value . . . . .	65
21	Proposed Expenditures and Revenue of the Development Board 1951/52 to 1956/57 (thousands of I.D.) . . . . .	70
22	Total Allotments and Actual Expenditure in Agricultural Sector and Per cent of Actual Expenditure . . . . .	71
23	Allotment and Actual Expenditures in Agricultural Sector and Per cent of the Actual Expenditures . . . . .	72
24	Second Plan 1955 - 1959 . . . . .	73
25	Agricultural Projects in the Plan 1961/62 - 1964/65 . . . . .	76

## INTRODUCTION

Iraq was one of the earliest centers of civilization. Before 3000 B.C. the Summerians had established in the alluvial areas of the south, a complex society based on irrigation and agriculture.

The old name of Iraq was Mesopotamia, meaning the land between two rivers. In 633 A.D., Arabs conquered Mesopotamia, and in 1258 Mongols invaded Iraq and destroyed ancient irrigation systems of Mesopotamia. In 1534 Iraq fell under control of the Ottoman Empire, and on November 22, 1914, the British occupied Iraq. June 30, 1930, was the date of the independence of Iraq under the rule of King Faisal I. On July 14, 1958, the revolution of Iraq followed the overthrow of the Hashemite monarchy, and from that time until now Iraq has been a republic.

Iraq is bounded on the north by Turkey, on the east by Iran, on the south by Kuwait and Persian Gulf, on the southwest by Saudi Arabia and Jordan, and on the northwest by Syria.<sup>1</sup>

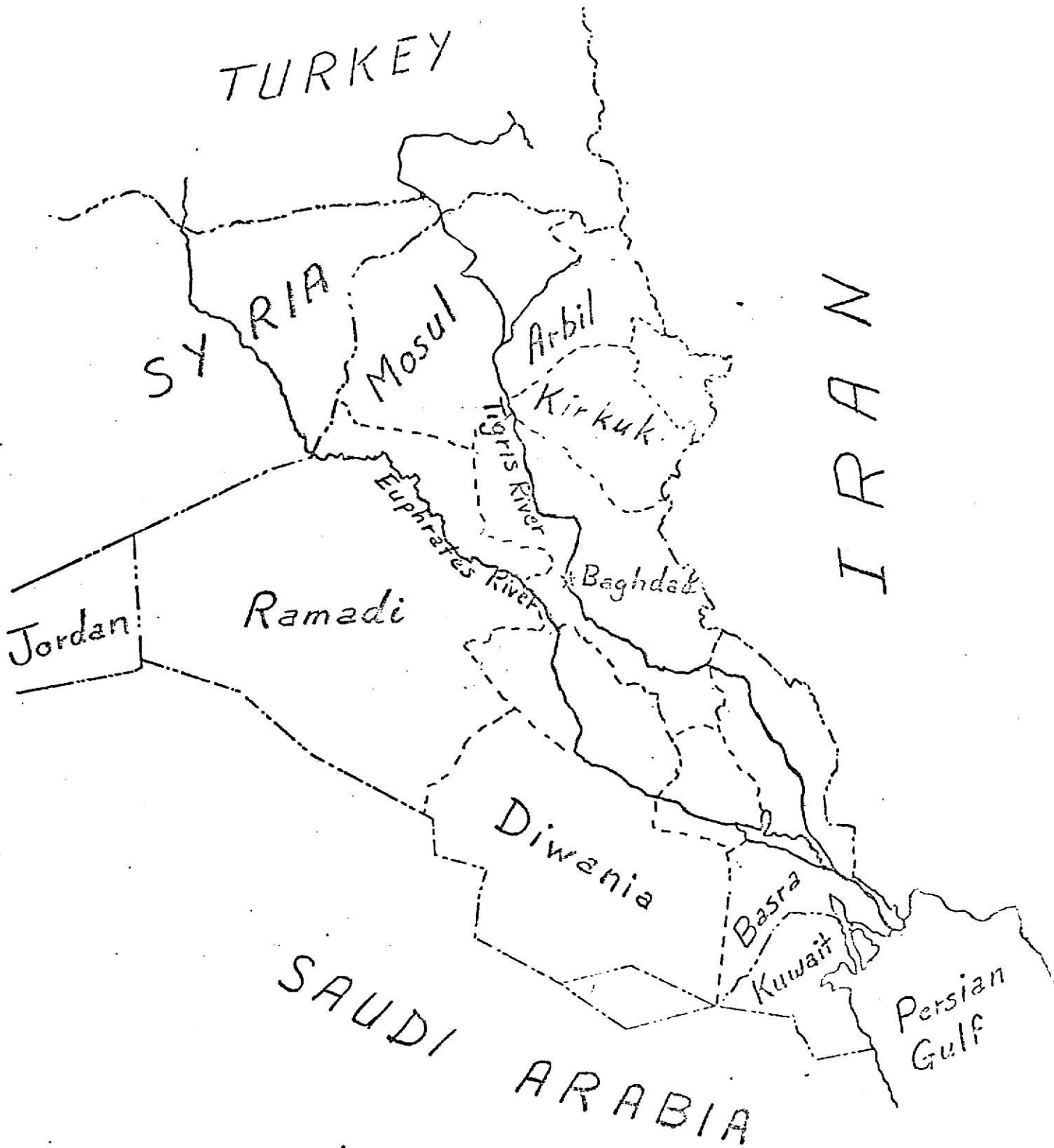
The population in 1965 was 8,261,527, while the population of Baghdad, the Capital of the country was 2,124,323.<sup>2</sup> Seventy-five per cent of the population is Arab. Twenty per cent of the total population represents Kurds and five per cent is Persian and Turks. Ninety-four per cent of the population is Moslem; about five per cent is Christian and one per cent represents Jews and others. The total area of Iraq is 170,000 square miles (438,446 square kilometers).<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup>See map on page 2.

<sup>2</sup>Iraqi Government, Annual Statistical Abstract, 1967, (Baghdad 1968), p. 33.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid., p. 21.



----- Liwa's Lines  
----- International Boundaries