

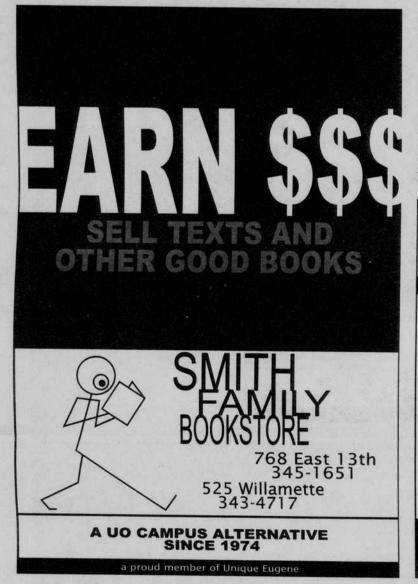
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342-2912 • 2025 Franklin Blvd. Eugene, Oregon, 97402



Suicide bomber detonates in Mosul mosque, kills 47

BY SINDBAD AHMED

MOSUL, Iraq - A suicide attacker set off a bomb that tore through a funeral tent jammed with Shiite mourners Thursday, splattering blood and body parts over rows of overturned white plastic chairs. The attack, which killed 47 and wounded more than 100, came as Shiite and Kurdish politicians in Baghdad said they overcame a major stumbling block to forming a new coalition government.

The explosion, in a working class neighborhood of this northern destroyed a large tent pitched next to a smaller one on a grassy patch in the courtyard of a mosque. Survivors scrambled to get the wounded to a hospital, lugging them to ambulances and cars

in blankets or prayer rugs as a strong smell of gunpowder filled the yard.

Shiite mosques and funerals have become a frequent target of Sunni-led insurgents. Last month, suicide bombers attacked a number of them during the Shiite commemoration of Ashoura, killing nearly 100 people.

Dealing with the persistent insurgency will be a main task for a new Iraqi government.

Officials said the deal between the Shiite clergy-backed United Iraqi Alliance and the Kurdish parties opens the way for naming a Cabinet when Iraq's democratically elected National Assembly convenes Wednesday.

The Kurds agreed to support the alliance's candidate for prime min-Ibrahim al-Jaafari.

exchange, the alliance will back Jalal Talabani as Iraq's first-ever Kurdish president. The Kurds will receive one major Cabinet post one fewer than they demanded.

On the thorny issue of territory, officials in both political camps said the deal provides for the eventual return of 100,000 Kurdish refugees to the oil-rich city of Kirkuk, southwest of Mosul.

The government will discuss returning the refugees and redrawing existing Kurdish autonomous regions to include the city, according to the deal.

Officials said any land agreement would be incorporated into the country's new constitution, which must be drafted by mid-August and approved by referendum two months later.

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5/11...Full Board Meeting

5/18...Committee Meetings

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March 16, 7:00 pm

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1850 Emerald Street (south of Hayward Field) • 346-4468 Visit our Web site at newmanctr-uoregon.org or send us an e-mail to newman@newmanctr-uoregon.org