



IRAQI FUTURE  
FOUNDATION

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## Iraqi Sunni's Critical Role in Iraq's Constitution Writing

Iraq is in the throes of writing its new constitution. At the heart of the matter is question of how significant a role religion should play in political governance. This topic highlights the significant difference between the Shi'ite political establishment that supports a religious regime, versus the popular Sunni tradition of religious moderation and secular governance.

The Constitution Committee initially had only two Sunni representatives. When rumors that the Constitution Committee announced it was eighty percent done with its task, the Sunni community mobilized to demand a more representative forum.

Al Anbar Center for Democracy (ACD) helped to coordinate today's gathering in Baghdad to address this issue. Nearly five hundred Sunni leaders from all regions of Iraq were assembled for the purpose of selecting Sunnis who will participate in and contribute to the Constitution Committee. Our goal is that through a process of participation, a healthy balance of political and religious views will be achieved.

Twenty five individuals were nominated to assist in the writing of Iraq's new constitution. This was a monumental event of significant impact; drawing international recognition of the need to ensure Iraq's constitution is one that will help unite the country and lead it into the future, rather than serving as a source of division and repression.

It was also an important demonstration of the Sunni community's will to participate in Iraq's political process. One of the most important challenges in Iraq's democratic transition is to ensure the inclusion of all Iraqi communities in the democratic process.

For more information about the ACD or the IFF,  
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