



# NOORAKIB

**Al-Noor Universal Foundation**



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<http://noorakib.com>

# 1

**NUF** continues deploying a long term observation mission and its monitoring efforts of the various aspects of the pre-election period processes in the eight targeted provinces (Anbar, Baghdad, Basra, Diyala, Kirkuk, Najaf, Ninawa and Salahaddin). NUF conducts activities planned over, these activities include:

## SUMMARY

- \* **Strengthen civil society's capacity to effectively contribute to the legal framework reform process.**
- \* **Long Term Observation: NUF conducts its long term observation efforts through field supervisors, and long term observers**
- \* **Reform Process Monitoring: NUF tracks the progress or lack of progress on addressing recommendations by the IHEC and other key actors.**
- \* **Open Election Data Barometer: NUF works on updating the Open Election Data Barometer on the Noorakib website.**

# 2 Back ground

**The** 2018 parliamentary elections witnessed a great citizens reluctance to participate in the elections due to lack of services, widespread corruption, and their lack of convection the elections will be held in a fair and transparent manner, in addition to the great weakness of organized and professional election monitoring by a large number of civil society organizations due to the lack of training and funding.

The poor performance of the observers in general, the used mechanisms and methods that are not systematic in monitoring, and the weak coordination between the provinces with a clear weakness in the deployment of observers in the anxious and liberated areas that need high monitoring. The 2018 elections witnessed the registration of a large number of observers/agents in coordination with the parties (a vote-buying process), with a large number of competing parties using illegal methods, and developing new methods in the process of buying votes and affecting the will of the voter.



In October 2019, Iraq witnessed youth demonstrations to demand reform, improve the services, and properly rebuild the political system by holding early elections. The Iraqi Council of Representatives legislated the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) law and it was on its way to decide on (early) election law for the Iraqi parliament.

Since April 2019 Al-Noor Universal Foundation (NUF) has launched its project (Noorakib) where the team is conducting a long-term monitoring process to monitor the electoral process in a professional and neutral manner in eight governorates (Baghdad, Basra, Mosul, Diyala, Salahuddin, Anbar, Maysan, and Najaf). It included monitoring the laws and legal framework of the electoral process and a long-term monitoring of events that included updating the voter register, displaying voter registry, the status of minorities and displaced people, the role of partners in the electoral process and the registration of political entities, as well as tracking electoral reform through reports of civil society organizations, and monitoring the availability of electoral data and information for citizen (Open Data - Barometer) and its continuity. Noting that this period did not witness the registration of any other observer group or political entity agents. Al-Noor team was the only team for monitoring.



# 3 Noorakib Project

**Noorakib project was launched April 2019 with the main goal of:**

- The project aims to build citizen's trust in the electoral processes through credible and effective citizen monitoring

***Sub -Objectives:***

- **Sub-objective I :** Strengthen civil society's capacity to effectively contribute to the legal framework reform process.
- **Sub-objective II:** Promote the transparency and integrity of the electoral process through effective oversight of the pre-election process.
- **Sub-objective III:** Bolster public trust in the electoral process by ensuring commitment to an accountable reform process.
- **Sub-objective IIII:** Build the capacity of civil society to effectively monitor the technological aspects of the electoral process



# Noorakib project outcomes

## 4

### The project achieved the following:

**1- Objective I:** Strengthen civil society's capacity to effectively contribute to the legal Framework reform process.

The project team produced the following reports as result of analyzing the electoral legal framework:

<http://noorakib.com/fullST.html>

<http://noorakib.com/partST.html>

**2- Objective II:** Promote the transparency and integrity of the electoral process through effective oversight of the pre-election process.

The following reports were the result of Al-Noor's long-term observation :

- Report on voter registration: <http://noorakib.com/report1.html>

- Report on displaying the updated voter registry: <http://noorakib.com/report2.html>

- Report on monitoring the registration of minority groups and IDPs

<http://noorakib.com/report3.html>

- Report on voter education: <http://noorakib.com/report4.html>

- Report on political parties registration: <http://noorakib.com/legal.html>

- Report on political coalitions registration: <http://noorakib.com/legal.html>

**3- Objective III:** Bolster public trust in the electoral process by for ensuring commitment to an accountable reform process.

Al-Noor team managed to collect 65 reports of civil society organizations after IHEC lost all reports from observer groups. Al-Noor listed more than 450 recommendations and selected to analyze 25 of them. This was the first time it happens in Iraq.

- First report: general view on electoral reform: <http://noorakib.com/reportars1.html>
- Second report: analyzing five of the selected recommendations  
<http://noorakib.com/reportars2.html>
- Third report: analyzing eight of the selected recommendations:  
<http://noorakib.com/reportars3.html>
- Fourth report: analyzing seven of the selected recommendations:  
<http://noorakib.com/reportars1.html>

**4- Objective IV: Build** civil society capacities to effectively monitor the technological aspects of the electoral process.

Al-Noor Universal Foundation (N.U.F) was able, for the first time in Iraq, to monitor open data by launching a special biometric to measure open data in elections for Iraq.  
<http://noorakib.com/bioA.html>





## **Al-Noor Universal Foundation (NUF) Future Plan**



- Strengthen civil society's capacity to effectively contribute to the legal framework reform process. Especially for election day.
- Long Term Observation: NUF will continue its long term observation efforts through field supervisors, and long term observers
- Reform Process Monitoring: The Noor will continue to track the progress or lack of progress on addressing recommendations by the IHEC and other key actors.
- Open Election Data Barometer: Al-Noor would continue updating the Open Election Data Barometer on the Noorakib website



## **Al-Noor Universal Foundation (NUF) features in monitoring**



1. NUF has a great experience in the field of election observation, and it monitors the stages of the electoral process professionally and impartially since April 2019 until now.
2. NUF developed a plan for improved mechanisms for election observations, deploying observers, and using modern techniques for transmitting information and data collection.
3. Al-Noor is working to monitor aspects that no other group touched before in Iraq such as electoral reform and open data (biometric).





## The ability and systematic background

NUF is a local, independent, non-profit organization operating since 2003 from its headquarters in Diyala and an office in Baghdad. Al-Noor works on national level issues, aiming at constructing & developing the abilities of the state institutions, Civil Society Organizations, independent bodies, and community leaders. NUF works primarily on advancing the following programs: promoting good governance practices on a local and central level in Iraq, promoting Transparency & accountability, and Consolidating stabilization of sensitive and fragile areas.

NUF has a board of directors that are elected every 4 years. NUF has a financial policy manual as well as a Human Resources manual. In addition, NUF has developed an interior bylaw contributing to the accountability and transparency practices within the organization. NUF has monitored the electoral process since 2005 in addition to monitoring the referendum about Iraqi constitution in 2005.



# PREVIOUS PROJECTS

- NUF has had previous relations with NED, NDI, DAI, USAD-ICSP, Mercy Corps, UNDP, UN-OPS and FCO.

- Observing the Parliament in 2018 with Creative
- Voter Education Campaigns in 2013 with IFES
- Voter Education Campaigns in 2010 with NDI
- Monitoring the Parliament in 2010 as part of an observation network “Hammurabi” Voter Education Campaigns in 2009 with IRD
- Voter Education Campaigns in 2008 with UNOPS
- Voter Education Campaigns in 2005 with DAI.
- Observing the elections and Electoral awareness with Al-Noor Universal Foundation 2014, 2013 , 2010,2009, the referendum on the constitution in 2005

- **The Project Director** - Ahmed Jassam - He is a civilian activist worked as an adviser for NED in 2008 in disturbed areas. Also worked as an adviser for a number of UNDP programs for community activities and NGOs to consolidate transparency. He run all the electoral teams for NUF from 2005 to 2018. He reliable trainer from UNDP in the general policies.





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