



REGISTER THE BIRTH OF YOUR CHILDREN. PROTECT THEIR RIGHTS!



IDP Birth Registration Awareness Campaign In The Kurdish Region Of Iraq

Remember that the services and assistance provided by UNHCR and implementing partners are free of charge. If any person approaches you and asks you to pay money to access or receive a service provided by UNHCR or an implementing partner, please do not pay - that person is trying to exploit you. If you are approached with such a request, you have the right to file a complaint by sending an email to UNHCR Protection Unit at irqerpro@unhcr.org or by calling the UNHCR hotline on 07719945709.



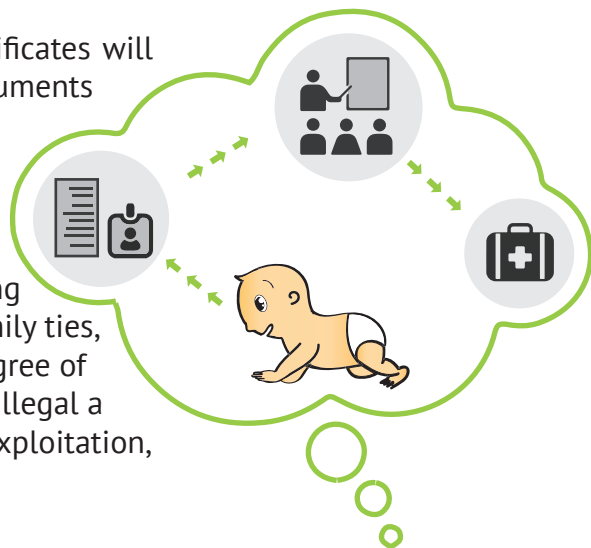


WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO REGISTER A BIRTH?

Birth registration is very important for the protection of children. Children who do not have birth certificates will find it difficult to access their rights in the future, including rights to education, to healthcare and to freedom of movement. Children without birth certificates cannot be added to their family's ration card, limiting your ability to receive Government assistance.

Also, persons without birth certificates will be unable to obtain identity documents in the future, to register their marriages or to register the births of their own children!

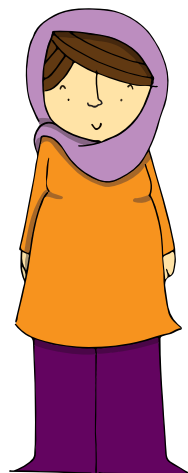
Birth registration, by documenting a child's age, nationality, and family ties, also provides children with a degree of protection against: child labour, illegal adoption, early marriage, sexual exploitation, and trafficking.



ARE YOU EXPECTING A NEWBORN IN THE KURDISH REGION OF IRAQ?

Bear in mind that in the hospital it's your right to receive free medical assistance before and after the childbirth, as well as vaccinations for your child.

It's recommended for you to give birth in a hospital. If you decide to give birth at home, always ask a licensed midwife to be present.

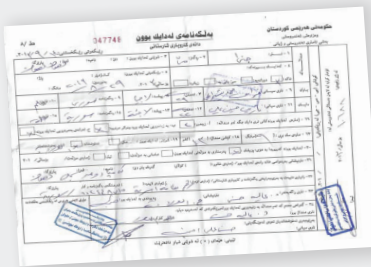




HOW TO REGISTER A BIRTH IN THE KURDISH REGION OF IRAQ

DOCUMENTS WHICH NEED TO BE PROVIDED:

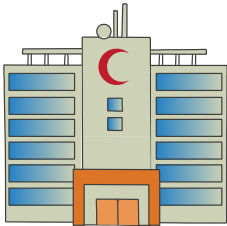
In order to register a birth, the following documents need to be shown at the hospital / to the registered midwife who attended the birth / at the office of the Births and Mortality Directorate:



Birth certificate

- ① Evidence of residency in the Kurdish region of Iraq: this can be a valid residency document, valid tourist card, letter from a local mokhtar or Asayish office confirming that you live in the Kurdish region of Iraq.
- ② Documents which prove the Iraqi nationality of the mother and father of the baby: you will be normally asked to provide your civil ID card.

If your civil ID card is missing, or if your marriage is not recorded on your civil ID card, you may be asked to provide your marriage certificate plus another form of identity document such as a nationality certificate, PDS card, passport or driving licence.



IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN IN A HOSPITAL:

You will need to return to the hospital in order to register your child's birth and collect the birth certificate. Both the mother and the baby need to undergo a quick medical check free of charge. There is a small charge for the birth certificate and vaccination booklet. You must return to the hospital within 15 days of the

of the birth in order to receive your birth certificate. You must then take the certificate to the office of the directorate of Births and Mortality in order for it to be stamped

If you do not receive the birth certificate from the hospital within 15 days of the birth, you will instead need to go to the office of the directorate of Births and Mortality in order to receive the certificate.



IN ERBIL, DUHOK AND SULEYMANIYAH CITIES:

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN OUTSIDE OF HOSPITAL WITH A REGISTERED MIDWIFE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE BIRTH:

The midwife who attended the birth will provide you with a letter, to be taken to the directorate of Birth and Mortality, to be certified within 30 days of the birth of the child.

You must register your child's birth within 30 days, if your child was born at home with a registered midwife in attendance. After this, you must apply to the court – please contact the PARC lawyers for assistance (see the contact details at the end of this leaflet).

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN OUTSIDE OF HOSPITAL, WITHOUT A REGISTERED MIDWIFE IN ATTENDANCE:

You must visit the nearest office of the Births and Mortality Directorate in order to receive your birth certificate.

If your child was born inside Erbil, Duhok or Suleymaniya city, without a registered midwife in attendance, you must register your child's birth within 15 days.





OUTSIDE OF ERBIL, DUHOK AND SULEYMANIYAH CITIES:


If your child was born outside of Erbil, Duhok or Suleymaniya city, with or without a registered midwife in attendance, you must register your child's birth within 45 days by going to the nearest office of the Births and Mortality Directorate.

LOCATION OF BIRTH AND MORTALITY DIRECTORATE OFFICES


DUHOK CITY


 Near Emerald Bank, Dohuk center


 from Sunday to Thursday

 from 8:00 to 14:00

ERBIIL CITY

 Ankawa Road, near Ankawa Bridge

 from Saturday to Thursday

 from 8:00 to 01:00

SULEYMANIYAH CITY

 Near Pallas Hotel, opposite to Mama Risha turn point

 from Sunday to Thursday

 08:00 to 15:00



WHAT TO DO IF YOU MISS THE TIME LIMITS FOR BIRTH REGISTRATION

After these time limits, you will have to apply to the court – please contact "Protection Assistance and Reintegration Center" (PARC) lawyers for assistance (see the contact details at the end of this leaflet).





WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS OR QUESTIONS?

Please contact the "**Protection Assistance and Reintegration Center**" PARC lawyers in your Governorate who can provide you with legal assistance to register your child's birth free of charge:


ERBIL

The PARC office (managed by Qandil)

 Nusaran Quarter, in front of Ashna kindergarten (or next to the house of Erbil's Governor)


 Sunday to Thursday


 from 9.00 to 16.00


 0751 0102059


SULEYMANIYAH

The PARC office (managed by CDO)

 Rapareen street, house 1 beside Azadi park


 0771 9005773

 0771 9005242

 0771 9005750

DUHOK

The PARC office (managed by Harikar)

 Nohudra Quarter on Jeen Street, near Nawroz Group building

 0750 8515964



Remember that the services and assistance provided by UNHCR and implementing partners are free of charge. If any person approaches you and asks you to pay money to access or receive a service provided by UNHCR or an implementing partner, please do not pay - that person is trying to exploit you. If you are approached with such a request, you have the right to file a complaint by sending an email to UNHCR Protection Unit at irqerpro@unhcr.org or by calling the UNHCR hotline on 07719945709.