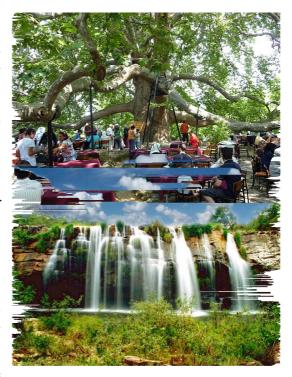
## **Tourism Sector**

Iraq's cultural, religious and natural environment is regarded as an attracting factor for investors and visitors since it is a country of ancient civilization, international archeological sites and sacred religious sites in addition to the outstanding natural sites in the northern parts of Iraq.

There is a plan prepared by the government to develop and expand transport infrastructure to serve the largest number of tourists.

Tourism is regarded as an important factor of the economic and social development factors in the various countries and it represents a main resource of the national income resources which provide job opportunities through its different projects and activities, accordingly; the government has been serious to lay down plans to invest the country's cultural and tourism components. The big changes that Iraq witnessed in all its economic and social sides have motivated the state to adopt active



policies and programs to draw the development advancement features, the diversification and social mergers basement with putting investment plans for the coming years aiming at laying the foundations for an investment environment to improve the economic and cultural status supporting the Iraqi economic pillars and reinforcing the social security.

Ministry of Tourism and Archeology is considered as the Iraqi governmental side responsible for developing and sustaining the tourists sites in Iraq through developing required infrastructure and maintaining its genuineness and impact whereas this includes rehabilitating, maintaining and reviving specified sites, contracting with archeological establishments and holding official teaching and training programs.

There are lots of opportunities to invest and rehabilitate tourists' sites all over the country.