

# Governorate of Muthanna

## Historical Background

The appearance of Warka City in the fifth millennium B. C. represents the first shift to the stable style of life and the early beginnings of the appearance of ruling régimes, writing, and the laws which organize the social life. Agriculture and availability of water resources played a major role in the Sumerian settlement at these spots and the foundation of a civilization, the monuments of which are still there up to now. The area, including its vast desert, is characterized by agriculture and the many palaces and temples. The historical site of Warka is 60 km to the north of Samawa city.



## Natural resources

The Governorate is characterized by the availability of the natural and human resources for investment, especially in the industrial sector. Muthanna governorate is rich with raw materials of the low cost in extraction and production, such as, limestone which is used in cement industry, sedimentary compounds of Sodium and Chlorine as salty compounds used in salt production. The Governorate is also characterized by lots of date palm orchards and its distinctive tourist site being near the Lake of Sawa and some tourist facilities.

## Location

Muthanna governorate is located in the south part of Iraq, at the edges of the alluvial plain. The majority of its areas height varies between (70- 220 m) above the sea level. The River Euphrates and its branches pass through it. It is the second water resource for agricultural crops irrigation. The Governorate is 270 km from Baghdad to the south. It is the second biggest Governorate, after Anbar, regarding its area. It has a desert climate, and its center is Samawa Constituency.

## Area

The area of the Governorate of Muthanna amounts to (51.740) sq km, 12% of the total area of Iraq. The desert occupies 47.000 sq km, i. e. 85% of the total area of the Governorate.

## Main cities:

- Samawa Constituency (Center)
- Rumaitha Constituency
- Khidhir Constituency
- Salman Constituency

**Population:** The population of the Governorate amounts to (782.874) person.

### **Main activities**

- Agriculture
- Textile
- Oil products and refineries
- Cattle breeding
- Construction industries, especially cement

### **Infrastructures**

- The Governorate has a vital location in the southern part of Iraq on the International road linking the governorate of Basra to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.
- (Baghdad- Basra) railway line, and the availability of a maintenance station for locomotives and train carriages.
- Oil refinery with 30.000 barrel/ day capacity
- The strategic pipe line which transfers gas from the governorate of Basra to Baghdad passing through Muthanna Governorate.

**Education:**

The Governorate of Muthanna has only one University and (455) primary schools; (125) secondary schools; (3) institutes for Teachers Qualifying, and many professional institutes and schools.

**Tourist sites**

**Lake of Sawa:** This is a closed lake with salty water. It is located at the Governorate of Muthanna, southern Iraq, and few kilometers from the city of Samawa. The Lake is surrounded by a natural limestone wall which quickly repairs itself if broken due to the quickness of hardening of the gypsum material in the water.

