

Governorate of Duhok

Historical Background

This is an Iraqi city which falls in Kurdistan of Iraq. Its three sides are bordered by mountains. This grants the city a marvelous looking. A streamlet coming from the Big Duhok Dam penetrates the city turning it to be one of the most beautiful sites. The Governorate of Duhok is famous for its fascinating landscapes.



The origin of the city dates back to the Stone Age, then it became a part of the Assyrian Empire; then the Babylonians; the Akhminians before it failed in the hands of Alexander the great and the Romans.

Location

Governorate of Duhok is situated in the region of Kurdistan, extremely to the north west of Iraq. This Governorate enjoys a special importance from the historical and geographical stand of view. The antiques which have been discovered in its hills and caves depict this importance. Moreover it has a distinctive geographical situation as it occurs on the borders between two states, and an international strategic transport way passes through it to link Iraq to Turkey and the external World as well. In addition, oil line which passes from Kirkuk to Turkey penetrates its north western corner. The Governorate of Duhok is characterized by its various land shape, including the high mountains which shape the political borders of Turkey, and wide plains which are rich in their agricultural resources. These shape the southern part of the Governorate.

Main important cities

Governorate of Duhok is consisted of several important constituencies including Duhok Constituency, Zakho Constituency, Sheikhan Constituency, Summail Constituency, Berdersh Constituency, and Namidi Constituency.

Population

Inhabitants of the Governorate amount to (1.057.174).

Education:

The Governorate has more than five private Universities and Colleges most important of which are (College of Agriculture, University of Duhok, and University of Kurdistan), many technical and administrative institutes, 440 primary schools, 215 secondary schools and many Teacher Qualifying Institutes and professional institutes and schools.

Health

Governorate of Duhok has 5 specialized hospitals and 5 state hospitals inside the Governorate and many medical centers all over its constituencies and Districts.

Infrastructures

Governorate of Duhok is an important commercial center. Ibrahim Al-Khaleel entrance on the border with Turkey is one of the important points through which 40% of the materials pass. The Governorate has a strategic road links it to Turkey.

Tourist Sites

Serseng summer resort

This is 126 km from Mosul. It is 1.046 m. over sea level. The maximum temperature there during summer mounts to 34 C.

Soulaf summer resort

This is (166) km from Mosul through a paved way, 5 km from Imadiah. It is 1150 m. above sea level. It has many marvelous waterfalls as high as 25 m. The summer resort is characterized by its numerous caves most important of which is Safi cave shaded by nut trees.

Jarsteen cave

This is a four columned cave at the valley of Duhok. Some historical references and some historians who visited the area confirm that it is one of the most ancient caves in which man had lived.

Historian confirm that Jarsteen cave dates back to the middle ages with its most ancient documents dates back to 12.000 year B. C. There is also the hill of Bastik and of Kammoun which date back to the history of the Kurdish Metanic State, in addition to the hill of Malta, the cave of Hilamta at Shandoukha, southward the Governorate center which dates back to the ages of the Kurdish medians.

Still, there are many other caves and antiques sculptured on stones and many other ancient sites.



