



هجرة آمنة
HIJRA AMINA
SAFE MIGRATION FOR IRAQ



“You must look at the person presented in front of you – they are the first key to determining the genuineness of a document.”

John Linehan, International Expert in Border Management

MAY
19-21
2015

Passport integrity is explored through IOM Iraq's document examination training for the Ministry of Interior

Under the EU funded HIJRA AMINA programme, implemented by IOM Iraq, officials from the Ministry of Interior (MoI) spent three productive days inspecting genuine and falsified passports from around the world – focusing on the security features inherent in identity documents, detection of forgery, and traveler interview and assessment.

The training's 28 officials represented various directorates of the MoI; from the Minister's Office to the Directorate of Residency Affairs, Border Guards Command and Border Points and the KRI security agency representing the major control points across the country, including four of Iraq's major international airports – Baghdad, Basra, Erbil and Najaf.

“It should be second nature to look at all documents in the same way, regardless of the document’s origin. This routine will allow you to identify when something is not quite right.”

**Lieutenant Colonel
Laith Hussian Modher,
Baghdad ITC**



In conjunction with the IOM expert facilitator, Lieutenant Colonel Laith Hussian Modher and Captain Alan Nihad Fuad, from Iraq’s Baghdad and Sulaymaniyah Immigration Training Centres (ITCs), also generously contributed to enhancing the knowledge of their colleagues. The training strongly emphasized the practical approach to document examination, which is the best way to build the required skills of border guards to efficiently control and facilitate travellers at the border. Participants were able to get their hands on various false and forged documents recovered from Iraq border control points, including Iraqi passports, and also explore features of genuine passports. As document examination is a very palpable skill, the training provided a unique opportunity for the officials to maximize the use their senses – touch, smell, sight – to understand discreet differences between genuine and counterfeit documents.



“I have had the privilege to be associated with HIJRA AMINA trainings since 2013. The quality and level of the document examination training provided in past trainings was very advanced. As a result, I have since adopted a completely new approach towards document examination and with further trainings this year I have consolidated my training abilities.”

Captain Alan Nihad Fuad, Sulaymaniyah ITC



The hands-on approach of the training was supported by information sessions on identification of visible security features, how to make a passport, counterfeit passport features, extra small print and UV light, passport endorsements and imposter identification. A session was also dedicated solely to Iraq's latest "G Series" passport,; distinct security features, biodata page and possible forgeries.

As the need for more, similar trainings was a clear take-away from the time shared, IOM Iraq is currently supporting the MoI to develop an improved border management training curriculum that will work to standardize the incorporation of such types of courses into basic training required for new recruits throughout the country in an effort to improve control on irregular migration.



“Forgery is a plague that affects us as Iraqis nationally, but is an international issue. As airport and border port controls, our job is to stop it from spreading.”

Brigadier General Huner Nadir Hammud, KRG

Issued May 2015

Contact IOM Iraq:

Phone: +962 6 56 59 660

iraqpublicinfo@iom.int www.iomiraq.net

This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of IOM and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.