

## **R O U N D - U P**

*Iraqi Business News*  
*Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2006*

### **Economy**

**Opening of two local markets in Wasit:**

The governor of Wasit governorate, Mr. Latif Hamad, recently opened two local markets in Kut city. These two markets were constructed by an Iraqi company from a donation by Mercy Corps Humanitarian International Organization. The Press manager for the governorate, Mr. Majed Hameed, said that each market cost \$165 thousand.

✉ Talib Al – Mas

**Al – Mada**

**Economic alliance between Syria, Iraq, and Iran:**

Hashimi Rafsanjani, the Chairman of the Expediency Discernment Council of Iran, recently called for forming an alliance between Syria, Iraq, and Iran in the field of oil and gas. The cooperation among the three countries will be through extending oil pipelines from Iran to Syria via Iraq. Rafsanjani said that Syrian ports would be the major place for exporting Iranian oil to the outside world.

**Al – Mashreq**

**Economists call for adjusting Iraqi economic laws:**

Al – Khari and Al – Waha investment companies recently organized an economic forum in Baghdad. The forum was attended by economists who called for adjusting all Iraqi economic laws like the commercial company, banking, industrial, tourism, and investment laws that were issued by Paul Bremer, the former head of the Coalition Provisional Authority. The participants added that the Iraqi government needs to form a new investment law to promote investment as well as establish a ministry for investment like other Arab and foreign countries.

**Al – Mashreq**

**Banking role in stimulating private sector projects:**

The Administration and Economics University, Baghdad College, recently held an economic forum regarding banking's role in stimulating private sector projects. The attendees confirmed that banks have a vital role in funding private sector projects to create new projects or expand existing ones.

✉ Rusul Al – Rawi

**Al – Sabah Al - Jadeed**

**Jordan starts applying new regulation about Iraqis' access to Jordan:**

Jordan started on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April applying a new regulation about Iraqis' access to Jordan that facilitates border crossing for trucks that carry goods and commodities between the two countries. The new regulation has solved the crisis that took place for three weeks.

✉ Faris Sharaan

**Al – Shareq Al - Awsat**

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**Accounting****Iraq signed a cooperation agreement with Jordan:**

Iraq recently signed a cooperation agreement with Jordan to modernize the governmental accounting system in Iraqi government offices. This agreement aims to update the Iraqi accounting system and upgrade it to international standards.

**Al - Adala**

**Reconstruction****Arab, foreign companies will start constructing a civilian airport in Al-Nasryah:**

The construction of Al-Nasryah civilian airport will be launched soon. This project has been awarded to Kuwaiti, Qatari and Iraqi contracting companies. This airport is considered the first one in Al-Nasryah. Engineering groups related to the US military have designed the project, which is funded by US military donations to Al-Nasryah governorate.

**Al - Adala**

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